

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, the House and Senate began final work on the Budget Resolution, and the Budget is more than numbers on a page—it is a statement of the priorities, values and goals of our President, this Congress and our nation.

The House Budget embraces the President's goals of rebuilding the economy and creating new jobs, restoring fiscal integrity, and making investments for our future prosperity and security.

Simply put, we will only be prepared, we will only be economically competitive, if we tackle the immediate economic and fiscal challenges before us, make essential investments that enable us to meet future challenges, and do so in a way that is fiscally responsible.

As the Budget Committee Vice Chair, I know that the President's Budget, modified by Congress, meets these goals.

The House Budget is an honest budget. It anticipates expenditures and it restores fiscal balance by committing to cut the deficit in half in five years.

And, most significantly, the budget makes smart investments that will contain costs and expand access to health care, build energy independence, and improve educational achievement, all critical if we are to grow the economy and be economically competitive in a global marketplace.

We should pass the Budget Resolution and begin the task ahead.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT ROBERT BARTLETT FOR HIS HEROIC SERVICE IN COMBAT AND WORK ON VETERANS HEALTH CARE REFORM

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the military service of one of Arizona's finest sons, Robert Bartlett.

Sergeant Bartlett enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2003 and was severely wounded by a roadside bomb in May 2005 while on patrol in Iraq.

In the aftermath of the explosion, Sergeant Bartlett twice suffered cardiac and respiratory failure and underwent dozens of surgeries. He has become a vocal supporter of mental health care for veterans returning from combat, and he serves as an example of courage and patriotism to his comrades in arms and civilians alike.

The following poem was penned by U.S. Capitol guide Albert Carey Caswell in honor of Sergeant Bartlett and his heroic service in combat and afterward.

ONE SHOT

One
One shot . . .
Is all we have!
All in our lives to give . . .
All in how we've got!
All in our choices . . .
All through our inner voices . . .
Taking sight . . . our scope . . .
As from our souls, comes hope . . .
One shot . . .
Taking aim with our hearts . . .
All in what we've invoked . . .
As our sights becoming clear . . .
As our targets in life appear . . .
As from these ashes, rose . . .
This is a Real American Hero . . .
As oneself forsaken . . .
But, for The Greater Good . . .
To stand tall in all you would . . .
In that battle of evil versus good . . .
To wear the uniform, with hearts of courage
warm . . .
With all you could . . .
As into that valley of death . . .
As Robert, you marched on so until none was
left!
While, there on a battlefield of honor dying
. . .
As your face is almost gone, as you lay lying
. . .
As a mother awakes crying . . .
As somehow she knows her son is dying . . .
But, beauty is but skin deep . . .
And our Lord, shall hold in his arms all of
those whose faith so keeps!
Now, digging . . . digging in deep . . .
As your will to live keeps, is found in each
and every heart beat!
Dying, three times . . . fighting to stay alive
. . .

All in your beliefs . . .
As Robert cheats death, America's Best . . .
As with his story, and courage and faith . . .
An American tale our world will bless . . .
A messenger from God, exploding . . .
As he looks into a mirror, his darkest fears
are realized . . .
Reloading, his new battle begins!
He cries . . .
As half his face is gone, has died . . .
In this face of courage we see . . .
The true definition of beauty . . .
Countless operations, courage's full measure
. . .

All in faith's affirmation . . .
Both Beauty and The Beast . . .
As his shot is heard around the world . . .
As his courage is unfurled . . . beyond belief
. . .

A Beautiful Man . . .
With every step, reloading . . .
With the Height of Courage exploding . . .
He takes command!
This Army Man . . . a real Hero, a fine
American!

Who against all odds, now stands . . .
Out on point, as a lone centurion . . .
Of faith and courage . . .
To teach us all, and all our souls to nourish
. . .

With his even greater weapon, he now fights
. . .

As from his heart of courage, comes the light
. . .
All in God's glory, his being . . . his soul . . .
his very story . . .
For he will not miss, that One Shot!

Madam Speaker, Sergeant Bartlett remains on active duty, stationed at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. I ask my colleagues to join me in commending him for his continued service, even after great personal tragedy, and in wishing him success throughout the rest of his military career.

DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL PROJECT FUNDING

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, I supported the following national projects that received funding through H.R. 1105, The Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009.

National Writing Project for activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act—The National Writing Project focuses on the teaching of writing and the professional development of writer instructors to ensure elementary and secondary students become successful writers and learners.

Reading is Fundamental authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act—RIF promotes youth literacy by providing underserved children access to free and new books in every state and territory across the country.

Center for Civic Education for two programs—We the People and Cooperative Education Exchange—that are authorized in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as part of the Civic Education program—The Education for Democracy Act supports civic programs, such as We the People and the Cooperative Education Exchange Program, to educate American students about the fundamental ideals of the United States.

National Council on Economic Education for the Cooperative Education Exchange program, which is authorized in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as part of the Civic Education Program—The Education for Democracy Act supports civic programs, such as We the People and the Cooperative Education Exchange Program, to educate American students about the fundamental ideals of the United States.

HONORING AMELIA LEVER FOR RECEIVING NATIONAL "LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE" AWARD

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Miss Amelia Lever of

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Albertville, Minnesota, for being chosen as a national winner in the Letters about Literature Reading Contest.

Miss Lever, a senior at St. Michael-Albertville High School, was chosen as one of six winners in a national competition with 55,000 students for her letter to poet Linda Paston. After studying the piece, "Caroline," Miss Lever chose to write a letter to the author expressing the positive impact the poem provided as she dealt with the tragedy of losing her sister in an accident.

"I personally attribute a great deal of that peace to your poem, 'Caroline,'" Miss Lever wrote. "I realize we can endure this pain only because of small miracles we experience every day. 'Caroline' is one of those miracles."

The panel of judges gave Miss Lever a perfect score for her "original, emotional, genuine, and inspiring response," and Target donated a \$10,000 grant to St. Michael Catholic Library on her behalf.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Sixth District of Minnesota, I want to congratulate Amelia Lever for her talent and national achievement. I wish her the very best as she graduates high school and pursues what are sure to be bright endeavors in her future.

CELEBRATING ABINGTON TOWNSHIP

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Abington Township, a community in my district that has been recognized with three distinct national honors. Abington Township is a three-time winner of America's Promise "100 Best Communities for Young People" in the United States, and in fact, the township is the only three-time winner in Pennsylvania. Money Magazine named Abington Township as one of the "100 Best Places to Live in America" and most recently, US News & World Report awarded Abington Senior High School a bronze medal as one of America's best high schools.

I have had the privilege of representing Abington in the Pennsylvania State Senate and now as a member of Congress. I am also proud to be an Abington resident. Over the years, I have seen first-hand Abington's demonstrated commitment to building a strong community dedicated to the advancement of the lives of its young people.

Abington Township's "Triple Crown Awards" are the result of a concerted collaborative effort among the school district, police department, community organizations, businesses, and residents who have worked tirelessly to create a responsible, caring, and safe community. They've established the Abington Community Taskforce, comprised of parents, police, religious and civic leaders and over thirty civic groups, dedicated to the mission of teaching tolerance, promoting neighborhood safety, and building strong families.

The Abington Police Department has established strong community partnerships with innovative programs like D.A.R.E., the Police Athletic League, Citizens and Police Together, Kids in Safety Seats, and Town Watch. Abing-

ton Township adopted the state-sponsored Communities That Care Initiative to advance their collaborative efforts based on an annual needs assessment to best direct their long-term community building initiatives. They've established joint initiatives between the school district and police department, including an anti-drug program and the Community Partnership of Youth and Adults to encourage community spirit and participation.

Abington Township is the recipient of repeated national recognition because, as a community, the people of Abington represent values that are at the very core of the American spirit—duty, respect, selfless service, honor, and integrity.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the incredible accomplishments of Abington Township and wishing the residents of the township success in their endeavors to better their community. Abington Township sets an example for all of us to follow. I couldn't be prouder of Abington for its outstanding efforts.

HONORING DARRELL WAYNE VANZANDT II

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Darrell Wayne VanZandt II a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 145, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Darrell has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Darrell has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Darrell Wayne VanZandt II for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MAYOR NORM GRIMSLEY

HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Norm Grimsley for his twenty-seven years of service as Mayor of Aroma Park and dedication to his family.

Under Mayor Grimsley's tenure, the Village of Aroma Park added a sewer system, which has greatly improved the quality of life of village residents. He worked to encourage the growth of new businesses, which brought Aroma Park thousands of dollars in additional revenue each year. Mayor Grimsley showed strong leadership on transportation issues, as evident in Aroma Park's early support and participation in the River Valley Metro Bus System.

Mayor Grimsley has enjoyed a forty-five year marriage to his wife Pam. He raised two successful children: Mike, a health manager and Carrie Grimsley-Jones, a professor of anatomy and physiology. He also has four grandchildren.

Mayor Grimsley has performed decades of superb service for the residents of Aroma Park. I am confident that Aroma Park will continue to prosper under his leadership. He is an excellent role-model in many capacities including, community leader, spouse, father, and grandfather.

NATIONAL WATER RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 1145) to implement a National Water Research and Development Initiative, and for other purposes:

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Chairman, Chairman OBERSTAR and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee staff have worked with us very constructively on this legislation, and I'd like to insert an exchange of letters into the RECORD between Mr. OBERSTAR and myself.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE,

Washington, DC, April 17, 2009.

Hon. BART GORDON,
Chairman, Committee on Science and Technology, House of Representatives, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN GORDON: I write to you regarding H.R. 1145, the "National Water Research and Development Initiative Act of 2009". This legislation directs the President to implement a National Water Research and Development Initiative.

H.R. 1145 contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. I recognize and appreciate your desire to bring this legislation before the House in an expeditious manner and, accordingly, I will not seek a sequential referral of the bill. However, I agree to waive consideration of this bill with the mutual understanding that my decision to forgo a sequential referral of the bill does not waive, reduce, or otherwise affect the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure over H.R. 1145.

Further, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure reserves the right to seek the appointment of conferees during any House-Senate conference convened on this legislation on provisions of the bill that are within the Committee's jurisdiction. I ask for your commitment to support any request by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for the appointment of conferees on H.R. 1145 or similar legislation.

Please place a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's jurisdictional interest in the Committee Report on H.R. 1145 and in the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House Floor.

I look forward to working with you as we prepare to pass this important legislation.

Sincerely,

JAMES L. OBERSTAR,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY,

Washington, DC, April 17, 2009.

Hon. JAMES L. OBERSTAR,
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN OBERSTAR: Thank you for your April 17, 2009 letter regarding H.R. 1145, the National Water Research and Development Initiative Act of 2009. Your support for this legislation and your assistance in ensuring its timely consideration are greatly appreciated.

I agree that provisions in the bill are of jurisdictional interest to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. I acknowledge that by forgoing a sequential referral, your Committee is not relinquishing its jurisdiction and I will fully support your request to be represented in a House-Senate conference on those provisions over which the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has jurisdiction in H.R. 1145. A copy of our letters will be placed in the Committee Report on H.R. 1145 and in the Congressional Record during consideration of the bill on the House floor.

I value your cooperation and look forward to working with you as we move ahead with this important legislation.

Sincerely,

BART GORDON,
Chairman.

COPS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this important public safety legislation.

The Community Oriented Policing Services, or COPS, program is one of the most successful law enforcement support programs ever initiated by the federal government. As the National Association of Police Organizations noted in their April 21 letter to me on this bill, "With the support of the COPS Program, community policing has been a dominant force behind the dramatic reduction in crime this nation has witnessed over the past 13 years." It's also clear that our communities are desperate to see this program properly funded, after eight years of neglect.

NAPO noted in their letter to me that in the last month, the COPS Program office received over 7,200 applications for the COPS Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP) grant funding contained in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the "stimulus bill." Those 7,200 applications amounted to a request for funds to hire 40,000 more officers nationwide. Yet the \$1 billion CHRP contained in the stimulus bill would allow local communities to hire only 5,000 to 6,000 new police. For New Jersey, previous COPS funding has meant an additional 628 police officers and/or sheriff deputies were walking the beat in the local commu-

nities of my Congressional district. Further, 33 school resource officers were hired to ensure that our children's schools are safe. H.R. 1139 would raise the CHRP authorization level to \$1.25 billion, allowing state and local law enforcement to hire more officers. Based on historical funding data, this bill would allow New Jersey alone to hire more than 2,000 additional police, and those would be welcome reinforcements for our current law enforcement officers who are working to improve the quality of life in communities across New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good and much needed bill, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

ALTERING LAID OFF EMPLOYEES IN REASONABLE TIME ACT

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of my bill, the Alert Laid off Employees in Reasonable Time (ALERT) Act, legislation to amend the definition of "mass layoff" in the federal Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) Act and to increase penalties for the violation of this act.

With unemployment levels on the rise, widespread layoffs have ravaged our nation's workforce. All too frequently, employees are provided with no more than a month's notice to prepare for unemployment, and often less than that. This is a critical time that employees need to prepare for unemployment and to make informed financial decisions.

Current federal law does not do enough to protect these workers. Under the federal WARN Act, employers are only required to provide 60-days notice if the mass layoff impacts at least 500 employees or 33 percent of a workforce when that percentage represents at least 50 employees at one employment site. More and more, companies are conducting widespread layoffs which, nationwide, can impact hundreds and even thousands of employees but these massive layoffs often fail to trigger the WARN Act at each employment site. As such, far too many employees are denied the protections they are entitled to.

To address this issue, I am proud to have introduced the ALERT Act. This legislation amends the definition of a "mass layoff" to include layoffs by one employer at more than one worksite. In addition, this bill would increase the penalty for violating the WARN Act to two times back pay and benefits.

Madam Speaker, in these challenging economic times it is our responsibility to do all we can to protect the workers. We must always remember that they are a key component to the growth of our economy and we must always ensure that they are protected, especially in this time of uncertainty. I am joined in support of this bill by the United Electrical Workers Union (UE) and the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW).

TRIBUTE TO THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FREMONT FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Fremont Family Resource Center (FRC) located in Fremont, California. FRC opened its doors in June of 1999 and is currently celebrating ten years of service to the community.

The Fremont Family Resource Center is a collaborative effort of 27 California State, County, City and non-profit service agencies, all working together to serve families in the Tri-City area of southern Alameda County. Together, these agencies made the FRC a "one-stop shop," where families can access a vast array of support services and programs. Their many services include adult and youth employment, child care information, referrals, subsidies and counseling and case management, housing information, parent support, immigration services, family economic success programs, services for the disabled, nutrition services for mothers and children, domestic violence prevention services, and health insurance counseling.

Tri City families make over 100,000 requests annually to FRC for services. The organization has become a model of service that has gained national and international interest and attention.

On the evening of May 2, 2009, FRC will celebrate its 10th anniversary and honor the individuals who have contributed to its success. As Fremont's Human Services Director, Suzanne Shenfil's "out of the box" thinking and leadership has led efforts to mobilize needed social services for vulnerable individuals in the Tri-City community. She has worked tirelessly to bring government and community organizations together to creatively eliminate barriers and build systems to serve those in need. Ms. Shenfil is the impetus behind the creation of the Fremont Family Resource Center.

In addition to the acknowledgment of Suzanne Shenfil, special recognition is also given to other members of the Fremont Family Resource team for their commitment and dedication to insure the success of the FRC. This team includes Letha Barnett, Schuman-Liles Clinic; Ledyia Cedenio, State Department of Rehabilitation; Rodney Clark, Safe Alternatives to Violent Environments; Tony Limperopulos, Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services; Shirley McPherson, Child Care Links; and Allen Jackson, Tri-City One Stop Career Center, and the Employment Development Department.

I join the Tri-City community in expressing appreciation to Human Services Director Suzanne Shenfil, the Family Resource Team, and staff and partner organizations for their vision and leadership over the past ten years of exemplary service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DAVID EVANS

HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of David Evans of Joliet, Illinois. Mr. Evans passed away in his home on Wednesday, March 25, 2009. His legacy will continue to flourish in those he left behind: his wife of twenty-five years, Rosie, five children, twenty-three grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

Mr. Evans was a community leader in Joliet for decades. He devoted over thirty years to public office, including service on the Will County Board and the Joliet School District 86 Board. His record illustrates a sincere dedication to education and advocacy for children's issues in the community. Mr. Evans was also instrumental in promoting positive change in the community—and stated that one of his proudest moments was the naming of an elementary school in Joliet after African-American actress and Joliet native Lynne Thigpen.

In addition to his involvement in local government, Mr. Evans was also active in numerous community organizations. He founded Joliet Must Vote, co-founded Black Pride Inc., was the vice president of the Unity Community Development Corp., and served as chairman of the Will County Head Start Program. In 2004, he coordinated a Get-Out-the-Vote operation for then-Senator Barack Obama.

The sudden passing of Dave Evans has truly shaken the community. His passion for the Joliet community will live on in the many lives he touched. He is not only recognized for his community activism, but for his life as a husband, father, mentor, advocate, and friend. It is with great pride that I honor the life of Mr. David Evans.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

HON. TOM PRICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to an article written by Donald Conkey, a constituent of the Sixth Congressional District of Georgia, regarding the National Day of Prayer. Mr. Conkey's article reads:

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Donald S. Conkey

This column on next week's Metro Atlanta Prayer Breakfast on Tuesday and the National Day of Prayer on Thursday was inspired by an e-mail, from Sally Field, that reminded me of just how much America's Founding Father's depended upon prayer to their "Creator, the Supreme Judge of the world" to support their efforts in creating a nation where liberty could be restored after nearly three thousand years of despotic and tyrannical rule that had enslaved mankind worldwide—and become a beacon of liberty to the world.

The Founders belief in, and their use of prayer, as clearly expressed in the Declaration of Independence, plus all their writings, should be a powerful example for those

Americans who fear the nation's current economic challenges and the massive directional changes being made by our nations new administration.

America's National Day of Prayer has a long history. A resolution by the first Continental Congress in 1775 indicated it was "a time for prayer in forming a new nation." President John Adams declared May 9, 1798 "a day of solemn humiliation, fasting and prayer," asking citizens of all faiths to pray "that our country may be protected from all the dangers which threaten it." In 1952 President Truman signed a national day of prayer proclamation and in 1988 President Reagan established the first Thursday of May as America's annual National Day of Prayer.

It is gratifying to know that I am not alone in believing in the power of prayer, or that God listens to and answers prayer (personal revelation), or that He answered the Founders prayers (collective revelation), not once but many times when they pleaded with Him, their Supreme Judge of the World, to establish and restore freedom to a world then enslaved by despots and tyrants. And to be able to join with other believers, of many faiths and cultures, in pleading with the Lord in prayer for "the protection of divine Providence" in a National Day of Prayer next week reinforces my beliefs and hopes that we whom He has entrusted to protect those everlasting principles of liberty given us by the Founders is reassuring.

The timing of next weeks prayer days may be providential: they are coming during the first 100 days of the new administrations efforts to bring about massive change of direction to the country, both internally and externally, and they follow last week's inspiring "call to arms" for Americans of every faith, culture, race and nationality to rally to the defense of their liberties in the form of "Tea Party" protestors. Their "Tea Bag" could well become America's new symbolic "Liberty Bell." These "Tea Party" protestors represent that third of the nation who still believe America is great and that God inspired and raised up the Founders to restore liberty to mankind with a new nation, a nation "choice above all other nations." This third also understands America will not continue to be a powerful and free nation if it continues to allow that secular third, those who reject God and want to remove Him from all aspects of American culture and dominate American politics, as they are doing today.

This third also understands that it is they who must work to educate (our schools have failed to teach these principles) that middle third who know not what America stands for or that their future liberties and freedoms are directly connected to the restoration of those principles upon which America was founded, with God's help. And they also understand they are involved in an ideological war, a war of ideas and thoughts that if lost could cost them that way of life they cherish so greatly.

And they, as did the Founders 230 years ago, inspired by Paul's admonition to the Ephesians of old, must put on "the whole armour of God, that they may stand against the wiles of the devil," including their "breastplate of righteousness," and their "shield of faith wherewith they may be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked" as they battle the enemies of liberty and freedom that want to destroy this nation, and what it stands for, and make it a nation like unto all other nations, as in United Nations.

And lastly they fully understand they must unite with others of differing faiths with a unity of purpose, in defense of their liberties, as did the Founders who restored those freedoms, and put on their "helmet of

salvation, and the sword of the spirit . . . praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints (freedom lovers) like them."

Next week, as we pray individually, as families, and in larger gatherings as with Fields Metro Atlanta Prayer Breakfast, we should, remembering the counsel of ages past, and "offer a prayer to preserve our nation's liberties" and "that our country may be protected from all the dangers that threaten it."

Be assured, all righteous prayers offered "with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence" will be heard, especially from those willing to "mutually pledge" to stand with others and take a stand, and work to defend their liberties as did the Founding Fathers stand to create them—230 years ago.

RECOGNIZING THE DURBAN II COUNTERCONFERENCE SPONSORED BY AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LAWYERS AND JURISTS AND THE JEWISH WEEK

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, last week we witnessed the deplorable spectacle of a United Nations conference purporting to address the troubling issue of racism, hijacked by nations with a deplorable record on human rights and turned into an all-out attack on Israel. I am proud that the American Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, The Jewish Week and other leading organizations in New York City organized a counter-conference that really discussed the continued problems of racism, racial discrimination, genocide, xenophobia, gender discrimination and religious intolerance.

I was pleased to have been asked to address the conference's opening day. Set forth below are my remarks:

"I want to thank Robert Weinberg, Marc Landis, the American Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists and Jewish Week for giving me the opportunity to address you this morning.

Eight years ago at Durban I, we witnessed a spectacle of anti-semitism the like of which has not been seen since World War II. There are many places you might expect to see anti-semitism—a ku klan klan rally, a pogrom, a neo-Nazi gathering. A UN-sponsored World Conference on Racism would not have immediately jumped to my mind—until the grotesque carnival of hatred we witnessed 8 years ago.

Of course, the UN had passed the illogical and hateful Zionism is Racism resolution in 1975—but they revoked that resolution in 1991 by a vote of 111 to 25, 10 years before the conference.

And yet, the warning signs were present.

At the pre-Conference it became clear that the full conference would be dominated by chants of 'Zionism equals racism,' accusations that Israel is an apartheid state and other outrageous slanders. Israel and the United States walked out—as they should have done.

The real irony is that anti-semitism, a form of racism, should be so prevalent at a conference that was supposed to combat racism.

The hate literature distributed during the NGO conference included caricatures of Jews with hooked noses, surrounded by money, and Israelis wearing Nazi emblems.

At the government conference, states such as Syria and Iran objected to the inclusion of Anti-Semitism or the Holocaust in the final report. They argued that any reference to the Holocaust would be 'favoritism.'

Anti-semitism is like the canary in the coal mine. It has always come before a hatred that spreads through many sectors of society.

At the first conference Israel's Deputy Foreign Minister sent a statement in which he asserted: 'antisemitism goes far beyond hatred of Jews. It has arisen where Jews have never lived, and survives where only Jewish cemeteries remain. And while Jews may be the first to suffer from its influence, they have rarely been the last.'

Instead of learning from history, Durban I and II seek to deny what happened, and then to twist its lessons beyond all recognition. Talking about an actual example of racism isn't favoritism, it's reality. Pretending it didn't happen or isn't important just encourages racists. After all, Hitler learned a great lesson from the Turkish attacks on the Armenians—'who remembers the Armenians?' he asked as he prepared plans for the final solution.

If we forget the Holocaust, or hesitate to bring it up, it emboldens the murderers. That's why I have been sponsoring a bill—the Simon Wiesenthal Holocaust Education Assistance Act to make sure our young people learn about the Holocaust and what happened when hatred and intolerance was allowed free reign.

I also authored and passed that Nazi War Crimes Disclosure Act, which opened up long-sealed US government records from World War II, so that all of us would know what our government knew about the Holocaust and the Nazis who scrambled to hide their past in the aftermath of the war. Eight million documents were unclassified as a result. The newly unsealed records have been fascinating—they showed that we knew a lot about Nazi collaborators who had murdered Jews, and even include a report from Hitler's psychiatrist.

Six months after Durban I, as the world struggled to comprehend the terrorist attack on New York on 9/11, which occurred just two days after Durban I's closing ceremonies, Deputy Minister Melchior gave a speech in which he juxtaposed the two events, and struggled to make sense of the senseless. He said: 'In an irony of epic proportions, this Conference against Racism itself hosted the most racist speeches and proposals to be heard in an international forum since the second World War. While doing nothing to help the millions of slaves, of impoverished and oppressed, this Conference became the mouthpiece for a new and venal form of antisemitism.'

The United Nations can do great work, but Israel often gets scapegoated by its many enemies. But as much as the UN can do wrong, it's important to remember that it can also do right. Just last year, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the international equivalent of the bill of rights. It was the crowning achievement of Eleanor Roosevelt, who chaired the committee responsible for drafting it. It was written in the aftermath of World War II, as the world struggled to lift itself out of the ashes and deal with Hitler's devastation. The world understood what could happen when a truly

evil man who controlled a vast store of weapons was able to give free reign to his desire to conquer and destroy. They believed a body that defended human rights would surely prevent such evil from rising up in the future.

Despite the good will of a newly liberated Europe, Eleanor Roosevelt had a long and difficult struggle to get the member nations to agree on one document. She had to persuade them to put aside their own narrow national interests and to agree to a strong affirmation of individual rights. It took her three years. When she was done, we had a document that affirmed that: 'it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protected by the rule of law.'

Instead of Eleanor Roosevelt, today we have a representative of Libya's Muammar Khadafi chairing the planning committee for Durban II. This planning committee includes such noted defenders of human rights as Iran and Cuba.

Human Rights Watch, a leading human rights NGO, pointed out the irony of Libya's position by sending a Palestinian, Ashraf Ahmed El-Hojouj, to testify before the committee. He was a medical intern who had been detained by Libya's government and accused of spreading AIDS, when he had been providing medical care. He and five Bulgarian nurses were held in dreadful conditions while the international community struggled to free them and avert a death sentence.

Madam Chair, he said. 'I don't know if you recognize me. I am the Palestinian medical intern who was scapegoated by your country, Libya, in the HIV case in the Benghazi hospital, together with five Bulgarian nurses.'

Starting in 1999, as you know, the five nurses and I were falsely arrested, prosecuted, imprisoned, brutally tortured, convicted, and sentenced to death. All of this, which lasted for nearly a decade, was for only one reason: because the Libyan government was looking to scapegoat foreigners.

Madam Chair, if that is not discrimination, then what is?

When I began drafting this speech, it was three days before the Conference opened, and it still wasn't clear which Western countries would be attending Durban II. The U.S., Israel, Italy, Germany, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Poland, Sweden and Holland have stated that they won't go.

Some other EU members have also indicated that they may walk out—particularly if language to 'never forget' the Holocaust is taken out. But what does it say that the conference will be opened with an address by the notorious Holocaust denier Mahmoud Ahmadinejad?

The Bush Administration had been an early opponent of Durban II and in December, the U.S. cast a symbolic vote against the UN's budget because it included funding for this conference.

The Obama Administration, in the spirit in which he was elected, made an effort to reach out and to try to make the conference's report better. They figured that if we weren't at the table, we could be sure that we would object to the final document. If we were at the table, we had a tiny chance of making it palatable.

Unfortunately, in a conference chaired by Libya, our odds of success were limited. And, it seems clear that our worst expectations

have been fulfilled. Human rights are being used as a weapon of political interests antithetical to human rights protection.

Was the Obama Administration right to participate in the pre-conference negotiations? Some would argue that it wasn't worth the time, the expense or the frustration. I've always believed that you're doomed to fail if you never try. You can always reject a bad bargain—but you'll never get what you want if you don't ask for it—and you can't ask for anything if you storm out at the beginning. So, I believe President Obama was right to try change the document in the lead up to this conference. And as it became clear that the United States could never endorse the final report, he was right to decide not to send a delegation to the actual conference.

I think most of the Western nations were more than a little embarrassed by Durban I, and that Europe's enthusiasm for this type of spectacle has been tempered by the explosion of terrorism that the entire world has experienced since Durban I. I am pleased the United States had the company of many other nations in boycotting Durban II.

Eleanor Roosevelt believed that our greatest asset is the conviction that our actions accord with justice and humanity. I am delighted to be here at the counter-conference, where justice and humanity can be the focus. There is so much work that could be done at a real conference on racism—exploring ways to bring justice in Darfur, looking at the discrimination against the Baha'i, exploring why the world has tolerated a return to clan rule in failed states like Somalia and parts of Pakistan, looking at ways to combat xenophobia and intolerance.

Once upon a time, we dreamed that the United Nations could be a forum to address those issues. Perhaps in time it could be—but not when states led by the worst abusers of human rights get to chair human rights panels, and not when narrow political interests are allowed to dominate. I hope, if there ever is a Durban III, it will be convened in an earnest effort to achieve equality."

Madam Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing AAJLJ and Jewish Week's Durban II Counterconference.

HONORING RABBI SHOLOM STERN,
TALI DAHARI, KENNETH S. FINK,
DR. JACQUELINE H. SIMONS,
MRS. SUSAN SACHS AND THE
BRANDEIS SCHOOL

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Rabbi Sholom Stern, Tali Dahari, Kenneth S. Fink, Dr. Jacqueline H. Simons, Mrs. Susan Sachs and the Brandeis School for their remarkable contributions to both education and community. The 79th Brandeis School Campaign Celebration will honor each of these dedicated and selfless individuals, commemorating their tireless work toward educating our youth. In helping students become well-informed and responsible community members and citizens, both the Brandeis School and these talented honorees are deserving of recognition.

Rabbi Sholom Stern will receive the Lion of Judah Award for his continued commitment to meaningful Judaic studies. Rabbi Stern's sustained and sturdy efforts help the congregation, community and school flourish. Mrs. Dahari will receive the Etz Chaim Tree of Life Award for her tireless efforts in connection with the Brandeis School, where for over 15 years she has persistently been a guiding light to students and parents alike. Mrs. Dahari's contribution as Publicity Chair has made an especially positive impact on the school as a whole and is proud to be a parent of the school as well. Mr. Fink and Dr. Simons will both receive the L'Dor Va'Dor Parents of the Year Award for their noble commitment to both the Brandeis School's mission and to its student body. From generation to generation, these alumni parents and their families have given selflessly to the school as both Mr. Fink and Dr. Simons are now proud to send their own children to the Brandeis School as well. Mrs. Susan Sachs will receive the Aishet Chayil Award for her determined devotion to both the Brandeis School and its Parent's Association. Mrs. Sachs has certainly been a woman of valor, serving the school in multiple fashions including her work as the Parent's Association President. Mrs. Sachs is also proud to send her children to the Brandeis School. All of these individuals help to foster an environment in which students at the Brandeis School can learn and prosper, toward those efforts they are especially deserving of recognition.

In guiding a student body of 350 students in pre-kindergarten through 8th grade, these honorees give of their time and abilities to a cause greater than themselves. The education of our youth will forever be a central and vital aspect of our society. Giving to children the opportunity to learn and achieve will continue to encourage our youth to explore their own gifts, talents and abilities in a safe, supportive learning environment. Toward this end, these esteemed individuals have continuously given of themselves in a selfless, fruitful manner.

The work of these honorees is surely inspiring to us all, and I am immensely grateful to them for all that they have accomplished. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing the gratitude of the U.S. Congress for their extensive contributions to society.

NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND CHILDREN'S DAY

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National Sovereignty and Children's Day, an event that is celebrated in the nation of Turkey every April 23rd. While this important holiday traces its origins all the way back to Turkey's capital, Ankara, in 1923, it has gradually taken on tremendous meaning and significance for children throughout the world.

On April 23, 1920, during Turkey's War of Independence, a body of Turkish lawmakers known as the Grand National Assembly met in Ankara to lay the foundation for a government that was to be a modern, parliamentary democracy. They drew upon their already

emerging status as a liberal and secular Republic to guide them in the creation of their vision. Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the founder and eventual first President of the Republic of Turkey, designated that day as National Sovereignty and Children's Day, in recognition of the important role that children would play in shaping the country's future. Atatürk was the first world leader to take so momentous a step in recognizing the contributions of children to their nation.

In Turkey, National Sovereignty and Children's Day is an official public holiday marked by student celebrations that span the entire week of April 23rd. Children 'govern' Turkey by sending their own 'representatives' to replace state officials and high ranking bureaucrats in their offices. The President, Prime Minister, Cabinet Ministers and provincial governors all turn over their positions to children's representatives. The children assume some of the real responsibilities of legislators by signing executive orders relating to educational and environmental policies. Children also replace the parliamentarians in the Grand National Assembly and hold a special session to discuss children's issues. These symbolic gestures demonstrate for children how they are the future leaders of Turkey, and remind current leaders that they are responsible for the well being of these children and the nation that they will inherit.

On April 27, 1986, a tradition that began in Turkey was brought to the entire world when the UN General Assembly was opened to children for the first celebration of World Children's Day. Later that same year, the World Children's Day Foundation (WCDF) was established to oversee World Children's Day activities. The program's goals were to equip children to make a difference in their own lives and the future of their communities and nations; bring children of different nationalities, races, religions, and socio-economic backgrounds together and to show them that, in spite of these factors, all people have much in common; and establish the fourth Sunday in April as the internationally celebrated World Children's Day to recognize the capability and potential of children everywhere to shape the future.

Madam Speaker, our children are our most precious resource, and I believe we all should join together in commemorating this important date dedicated to them. We also should commend Turkey for leading the way in being the first government to set aside one day each year to honor its children some eighty-six years ago.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YOUNG MARINES

HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Young Marines. I am honored to represent the proud and patriotic City of Waterbury, Connecticut where the first Young Marines Unit was founded in 1959 by members of the Brass City Memorial Detachment of the Marine Corps League. Just three years later, the ranks of Waterbury's Young

Marines had swelled to 1,500 and spread to 9 other cities all because of the fine young men from Waterbury.

In 1974, Waterbury's own Young Marine program was chartered as a subsidiary organization of the Marine Corps League, whose mission is to preserve the traditions and promote the interests of one of our very finest institutions, the United States Marine Corps.

The Young Marines embody our core values as Americans—honesty, fairness, courage, respect, loyalty, and love of country. These principles are instilled on the Young Marines by the steady hand of hundreds of volunteers from communities all over the country, many of whom are former, retired, Active Duty, or Reservist Marines who believe passionately in the values they learned during their service. I can think of no better mentors for these youngsters.

Many of my district's finest and most involved citizens are products of the Young Marines; some went on to join our nation's Armed Forces, others found another way to serve their community. In 1960, a young man named Sam Beamon joined the Young Marines with his brothers. After graduating from high school, he went on to serve honorably in the United States Marine Corps in Vietnam. Sam is now active in many veterans' organizations and is the State Commandant of the Marine Corps League, Department of Connecticut.

Since its inception, the Young Marines have sponsored many initiatives to improve their communities. I stand here honored to represent those seminal Young Marines from Waterbury, Connecticut whose organization went on to take a leadership role in the U.S. Marine Youth Drug Demand Reduction Program in 1993. This community-based program sought to reduce the impact of harmful drugs on our communities and encouraged other youths to live a drug-free lifestyle. The values of this program are perfectly aligned with those of the Young Marines, and communities around the country are lucky to have such respected advocates for clean and healthy living.

In 2006, the Young Marines, now a nationally respected organization, conducted the Veterans Appreciation Week campaign, which sought to challenge Young Marines throughout the country to dedicate some of their time to honor our nation's veterans and to demonstrate, through their actions, their sincere appreciation for our veterans' service to our country. In a time when fewer Americans seem to be aware of the sacrifices that our veterans made, I am glad that we can look to the Young Marines to provide leadership on how we should honor those who have served.

Here, on this the 50th Anniversary of this vital and impressive organization, we are reminded of its mission statement: the Young Marines' mission is to positively impact America's future by providing quality youth development programs for boys and girls that nurture and develop its members into responsible citizens who enjoy, and promote, a healthy, drug-free lifestyle. On Saturday April 25th, Young Marines and former Young Marines from across the nation came to the organization's birthplace to join several of the members of the Marine Corps League Brass City Memorial Detachment who established the Young Marines. I would like to congratulate Ray Bozzuto, Art Corcoran, Roland Hamel, Tony Szantyr, Ed Zuraitis, and the other founding members on the legacy of patriotism and civic

involvement that their idea produced. With a half century of overwhelming success, I think it's safe to say, "job well done."

TRIBUTE TO MR. EDWARD L.
GARDNER

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Edward L. Gardner for his lifetime of philanthropic service, most notably with Big Brothers Big Sisters of New York City. On Tuesday, April 28, 2009, Mr. Gardner will be honored by Big Brothers Big Sisters at their 2009 Sidewalks of New York Annual Awards dinner.

Inspired by his experience as a Big Brother in 1963, Ed Gardner's involvement with Big Brothers Big Sisters of New York City spans nearly a half century. In 1965, Mr. Gardner joined the organization's Board of Directors and has since served as President and Chairman.

Founded in 1904, Big Brothers Big Sisters of New York City has evolved into a far-reaching one-to-one mentorship program that reaches over 4,000 young people every year. By providing mentors to children who need caring adult role models, the organization helps New York City's youth to realize their potential and lead enriching lives.

Over the past forty-four years, Ed Gardner has helped ensure the longevity and success of Big Brothers Big Sisters by single-handedly raising over \$20 million for this worthy cause. However, Mr. Gardner's philanthropic efforts are not limited to his work with Big Brothers Big Sisters. Over the years he has dedicated his time and considerable talents to aiding other notable organizations in the arts, health and education.

Mr. Gardner has served on the boards of the Health Care Chaplaincy, PS #1, and the Alvin Ailey Dance Company. He is a Council Member at The Rockefeller University, an Honorary Chairman of The New York Public Library's Conservator Council, and former Chairman of the Bank of New York Hamilton Funds.

A graduate of the City College of New York, Mr. Gardner has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Industrial Solvents Corporation since 1980.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize my friend Edward L. Gardner for his remarkable service with Big Brothers Big Sisters of New York City and his lifelong commitment to enriching the lives of others. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring his tremendous accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO U.S. ARMED FORCES
FOR D-DAY JUNE 6, 1944

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the brave acts of heroism and military achievement by the mem-

bers of the United States Armed Forces who participated in the June 6, 1944, amphibious landing at Normandy, France.

I want to commend them for their leadership and valor in an operation that helped to bring an end to World War II.

I would like to draw special attention to the 201 Missouri men who died aboard LST 496 during the Battle of Exercise Tiger, a 1944 naval battle that had been originally planned as a practice mission for the D-Day Invasion of Normandy.

Nearly 750 United States soldiers and sailors, a large number of whom were from Missouri's 3206th Quartermaster Service Company, died in the exercise on April 28, 1944, after a number of their ships were sunk by German forces.

These soldiers and sailors sacrificed everything they had in service to America and will serve as a permanent reminder of bravery, loyal patriotism, and love of country.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in a wishing all the members of the Armed Forces our sincerest thanks and appreciation for their heroic mission.

ADDITIONAL CALIFORNIA 49TH
DISTRICT PROJECTS FUNDED IN
THE FY2009 OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS ACT

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, March 11, 2009, in an extension of remarks on the House floor regarding H.R. 105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009, I stated that Members need to think of the future of this Nation, rise above their own self-interests, and advocate for the removal of all earmarks from all present and future appropriations bills until we get the federal deficit under control. It is a shame that the Speaker and the Democratic leadership have not been willing to take the initiative and do this on their own.

The Democratic leadership has made no significant effort to perform real earmark reform during this economic crisis. Rather than eliminating costly earmarks, and excess spending, under the leadership of President Obama, the Speaker and Democrats push to implement the largest budget in our nation's history; a \$3.55 trillion budget that will dramatically increase the deficit and likely bankrupt our children's children. The American people are asking that the members of this body lead us out of this crisis, but it is apparent that the President and the majority leadership can do nothing more than throw money at the wrong problems and tax and lambast those that can create the right solutions. The majority leadership needs to understand that unbridled government spending is not the answer to this crisis, and that earmarks continue to be a problem that plagues this body and not a solution.

Since being reelected to Congress last November, I have not made any earmark project requests. The projects that were included in H.R. 1105 were not done so at my behest in this Congress. As I stated before, I am highly disappointed that, faced with the enormity of the current federal deficit and the unprecedented amount of federal spending that has

occurred, the House and Senate majority leadership and Appropriators did not take the opportunity to start showing fiscal restraint by removing Congressional Earmarks from the fiscal year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act. Had I been approached by the appropriations committee prior to the passage of this bill, I would have asked for the removal of the listed projects.

This bill is another example of a missed opportunity to begin the real reform that the American public truly seeks. Members must realize that we have an obligation to the public to work to eliminate earmarks from future appropriations bills until we get deficit spending under control.

Below are two requests that were made in the 110th Congress that the Democratic majority decided to include in this spending bill. While they are projects of merit, I did not seek out support for their inclusion in this Congress.

Bureau of Reclamation—Water and Related Resources

Rancho California Water District
\$50,000

The bill included funding through the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee for the Rancho California Water District, which will provide for additional recycled water reuse of 16,000 acre feet (AF) per year by converting water district's west side agriculture area to recycled water systems (1 AF equates to approximately 326,000 gallons or enough water to supply two families for one year). It will also increase use of annual seasonal storage in Vail Lake reservoir by 10,000 AF per year by constructing 48-inch pipeline to transport raw water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) to store in Vail Lake. It will also convert majority of agricultural delivery system from treated water potable system to recycled and raw water non-potable system by building delivery system for raw water relieving 5,000 AF/year of treated water demands

GSA

San Diego Courthouse, California
\$110,362,000

The bill also included funding through the Financial Services Appropriations Subcommittee for the San Diego, California Courthouse Construction Project. Construction funds for the San Diego courthouse project were originally appropriated, as requested by the General Services Administration (GSA) and the Judicial Conference of the United States, in FY 2006. The San Diego Courthouse is a critical project for the region considering that the existing courthouse is an extremely busy border court, which processes hundreds of prisoners on a daily basis. The additional funds would be used to expedite completion of this project.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, April 22, 2009, I inadvertently voted "aye" on roll No. 198—Motion to Instruct conferees regarding S. Con. Res. 13. I had meant for my vote to be recorded as "no."

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JANE
KLEIN, LENEXA, KS, CITY COUN-
CIL MEMBER

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Jane Klein, a member of the Lenexa, Kansas, city council, who died on April 5th.

As the District Attorney for Johnson County for twelve years and as U.S. Representative for the Third District of Kansas since 1999, I came to know Jane Klein well. A dedicated public servant and community volunteer, she made the city of Lenexa and Johnson County a better place to live for her friends, neighbors and family members. I am placing in the RECORD an article published in the Kansas City Star that announced her untimely death and reviewed her achievements as a public servant and concerned citizen. The Star obituary also captures her sense of enthusiasm and effervescent personality, which will be sorely missed by all who knew her. I join with the leaders of the Lenexa community in paying tribute to this energetic, active leader, and with her many friends and family in mourning her loss.

[From The Kansas City Star, Apr. 7, 2009]

LENEXA CITY COUNCILWOMAN JANE KLEIN DIES
AT 70

(By Dawn Bormann)

When the forecast called for heavy snow, Lenexa City Councilwoman Jane Klein usually had a crock of chili simmering and cinnamon rolls rising for the street crews.

On other days she baked cookies for police officers and often dropped goodies off with firefighters, her children said.

Klein—hailed as a Lenexa cheerleader by constituents, political insiders and the rank and file—died Sunday. She was 70.

Her death came days before Klein was expected to sail through Election Day unopposed. Instead, supporters, family and friends planned a Tuesday night victory party at a Lenexa watering hole.

Klein was a mother to five children, grandmother to nine and great-grandmother to two children. The Irish Catholic woman saw to it that her children knew the importance of giving back to the community.

It was easy to learn from the stalwart public servant. She was elected to the council in 2001 and 2005 by the residents of Ward 1 for consecutive four-year terms. She had previously served on the council from 1983 to 1995. Klein had lived in Lenexa for more than 40 years and devoted 20 years to public service as a councilwoman.

"We are deeply saddened by the news of Jane's passing," Mayor Mike Boehm said. "Our community has lost a dear friend and long-time leader. Jane's passion for this city and our citizens was extraordinary; she always had the community's interests at heart in all that she did. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jane's family."

Klein was diagnosed with gall bladder cancer about six weeks ago. So when the councilwoman sent word that she wouldn't make it to the city's March 17 meeting some might have assumed that she was too sick. Good friends knew better.

"The heck with the cancer—she was not going to miss St. Patrick's Day," said fellow City Councilwoman and friend Diane Linver. "She was 100 percent Irish and boy you knew it."

During Klein's tenure, the city moved forward on several projects including City Center, "rain to recreation" and road projects like the 87th Street.

Knowing public safety was of utmost importance in the suburbs, Klein was an unabashed supporter of the fire and police forces.

The councilwoman might have been a strong Irish woman, but she would not engage in divisive politics, Linver said.

"She was never a negative force. You would never hear a negative word come out of her mouth about another city council member," Linver said. "She would find a way to give her opinion but still be the kind and gentle and decent person that she was. We should all emulate that."

Linver suspects her gentle nature and genuine love of the city were among the reasons that few challengers stepped up to run against Klein.

"People respected her and they knew that she cared about her constituents and she knew so many of them," Linver said.

Klein was active in many clubs all over town. She volunteered again and again to be the VFW Post 7397 Auxiliary president. She stepped up for church committees and was a Kiwanis Club member.

Klein instilled a strong sense of public service in her children, too. As youngsters, they helped sell poppies and often accompanied her on trips to the veterans hospital in Leavenworth.

At the holidays they knew there was always room for another. Anyone without family or a place to go for the holidays was instructed to show up at the Klein household.

"We always had an orphan clause," said Klein's daughter Susan German. Her work in the community did not go unnoticed.

In 2006 Klein received the coveted "spirit of the chamber" award from the Lenexa Chamber of Commerce. It was an award she held dear.

"Mom loved Lenexa. She loved serving the people of Lenexa," her son, Doug Klein said. "She loved seeing the city grow."

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. with rosary at 8 p.m. Monday at Holy Trinity, 9150 Pflumm Road. The funeral will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Holy Trinity.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING
ACHIEVEMENTS OF HIDALGO
COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
DISTRICT AS THEY ACCEPT THE
2009 COLLEGE BOARD INSPIRA-
TION AWARD

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hidalgo County Independent School District for their outstanding achievements this past year. Today, the Hidalgo school district will be presented with the 2009 College Board Inspiration Award. This prestigious award is presented to only 3 secondary schools in the country which have exhibited outstanding college preparatory programs and partnerships among teachers, parents and community leaders.

Earlier this month, Hidalgo Early College High School was named one of the countries three secondary schools to receive this year's Inspiration Award. As one of the most improved secondary schools in the country, Hidalgo Early College High has shown its desire

to provide quality programs for its students. This award shows the commitment that these educators in Hidalgo County have for their community, state, and nation as they help prepare and educate tomorrow's leaders.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Hidalgo County Independent School District for their extraordinary accomplishment in having one of the selected schools to receive the 2009 College Board Inspiration Award. Hidalgo Early College High School's students, staff and administrators truly deserve our recognition today for setting such a fine example to the rest of the state and the nation as a whole.

TRIBUTE TO THIRD DISTRICT CON-
GRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY
COUNCIL

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, in the fall of 2004, I created the Congressional Youth Advisory Council to engage high school students living in the Third District. Back then, I guessed that perhaps 10 to 20 students would apply. Little did I know that this program would grow into a popular program for the area's best and brightest students from across the Third District. For good reason, many associate the Congressional Youth Advisory Council with excellence and one of the highest standards of civic pride for young people in North Texas.

This year 45 students representing 21 area high schools make up the elite group. The Council's goal is two-fold. First, the group provides me with greater student perspective and insight on issues that directly impact younger Americans. Second, Council activities educate students on government policies relevant to young people.

The students boast impressive credentials: honors society, student leadership, school athletics, community philanthropy, language clubs, and musical backgrounds. These students have things to say about the future of this great country and long to be heard. They represent their generation as servant leaders and make their community and their country a better place.

I commend the students for volunteering their time on the Congressional Youth Advisory Council and I wish each one continued success in all of their endeavors. Without a doubt, every student will continue to play an important role in our community for decades to come, and that America and North Texas, will continue to benefit from their dedication, smarts, and service.

You know, a lot of people hope to make a difference sometime in their lives. To the members of the Congressional Youth Advisory Council, you just did. Thank you. I salute you; God Bless You and God Bless America.

The names of the students serving on the 2008–2009 CYAC follow:

Jonathan Alston; Logan Borgsmiller; Amy Boykin; Nicholas Brush; Jennifer Bundren; Matt Burnham; Anita Chandras; John Clark; Ally Crutcher; Christian Cummings; Trevor Ede; Josh Eldridge; Luke Franz; Jennifer Goebel; Anna Gu; Stephen Hayes; Lisa Hu;

Richard Hung; David Jacobs; Sravanthi Kadali; Sibel Kayaalp*; Amber Khan; Nolan Killingsworth; Lauren Kraut; Tyler LeCocq; Kenny Lee; Amanda Lu*; Mark Macmanus*; Ryan Martinez; Alexandra Meyers; Ashley Newton*; Cody Painter; Kioumars Abboss Rezaie; Corbin Ringley*; Evan Rosenfield*; Natalie Shanklin; Rena Sheng*; Bryan Sims; Cameron Sprock; Eann Tuan; Jonathan Unger; Tyler Unger; Eric Womboldt; Joshua Womboldt*; and Caitlyn Woolum.

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR GIDDON

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Arthur Giddon of Bloomfield, Connecticut. Over the past century, Art has cultivated a distinguished law career, serving as a notable trial lawyer as well as a chief public defender. He has a wonderful and devoted wife, Harriet, to whom he has been married to for over 60 years. Together they have raised a beautiful family. On April, 26, 2009, Art will celebrate his 100th birthday with friends and family in Connecticut.

In 1922, at the age of 13, Art joined the Boston Braves as a batboy. He fetched pop bottles, ran errands for players, polished equipment, and conversed with baseball legends. First baseman, Walter Holke, often walked him home after games and taught him how to make kites, a skill that he would pass on to grandchildren. His chance meeting with baseball's commissioner, Kenesaw Mountain Landis, and a suggestion to become a lawyer would portend a legal profession matched by few. Decades later after Mr. Landis' suggestion, he would study at Harvard Law and become a notable lawyer in Connecticut. In 1985, he retired as the chief public defender of the Harford Judicial District, after decades of public service.

This past week, Art's unique experience as a batboy has gained national media attention. On Saturday, Art will join the Boston Red Sox, the team he passionately cheers for, as an honorary batboy in recognition of his experience as a young boy decades ago. He will make his debut in a jersey crafted by his daughter, adorned with "No. 100, Big Pappy".

Few individuals experience as much and contribute as much as over the course of their lifetime as Arthur has. Madame Speaker, I can personally attest to this. As a young law student, I worked in Art's office for two years as a legal intern and learned a lifelong lesson in the law, as well as a balanced passion for justice. He has lived an extraordinary life, filled with personal and professional vigor and I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents in celebrating his 100th birthday.

A TRIBUTE TO MINA H. PHINNEY

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and to celebrate the 100th

birthday of a native daughter of the State of Maine. Her unwavering dedication as an educator in Dennysville and other local communities will be cherished for years to come.

Mina Phinney graduated from Dennysville High School and went on to continue her education at Colby College in Waterville, ME. Returning to Dennysville High School in 1931, Mina taught English and French until 1938 and then returned to resume teaching from 1952 until the school closed in 1961. Her career as a dedicated educator continued through the 1960s and 1970s at Washington Academy in East Machias. In 2000, she received the school's Distinguished Educator Award from the Washington Academy Board of Trustees.

During her earlier years, Mina served as an organist at the Dennysville-Edmunds Congregational Church. She is an avid Boston Red Sox fan and has always maintained a keen interest in local, state and national happenings and always keeps up with current events. Mina has been a lifelong member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She contributed to the war effort as an Air Craft Spotter during World War II.

Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating the 100th birthday of Mina H. Phinney.

RECOGNIZING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF DIABLO THEATRE COMPANY

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Diablo Theatre Company, founded in 1959 as the Diablo Light Opera Company. For five decades, Diablo Theatre Company has brought San Francisco Bay Area audiences "the music and magic of Broadway."

The company grew from modest beginnings. It was founded in 1959 as the Diablo Light Opera Company, a name that endured until May of this year. The founders were two Walnut Creek couples who were inspired by singing with the 120-member Glee Club and Treble Clef at UC Berkeley. Their last show on campus was, prophetically, "Of Thee I Sing."

The Diablo Light Opera Company's first offering was Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Pirates of Penzance," staged in the multipurpose room of Walnut Creek's Las Lomas High School.

A few years later, the new company presented "Brigadoon," marking a major turning point for the arts in Walnut Creek. Ron Caya, Walnut Creek's first cultural services director, attended a performance. Since seats at the Las Lomas multipurpose room were not on an incline, his view was obstructed and he could not see the famous sword dance in the show. He subsequently complained to the Walnut Creek City Council, telling members that, "This group needs a real theater."

He got the council's attention and plans were made to buy an old walnut warehouse, which occupied what is now the site of the Leshner Center for the Arts. The warehouse was transformed into a makeshift theater, the

Walnut Creek Civic Arts Center which became affectionately known as the "Nut House." It opened in December 1965 with Diablo Light Opera Company's production of "The Sound of Music." The audience came in black tie and, because of no heating in the building, blankets.

Years and many performances later, "Nut House" was demolished. A new performing arts venue, the Leshner Center for the Arts, was constructed and opened 19 years ago. Diablo Light Opera Company has performed at the Leshner Center ever since in addition to other venues, including the recently restored El Campanil Theatre in Antioch in eastern Contra Costa County.

Beginning in June of 2009, Diablo Light Opera Company will assume its new name, Diablo Theatre Company while celebrating its colorful past and focusing on the future.

Today, the Diablo Light Opera Company is celebrated and honored for enriching the cultural atmosphere through their craft and commitment to providing theatrical productions to the Bay Area.

RECOGNIZING JUSTINA CASSAVELL

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Justina Cassavell, daughter of Jeanne and Michael Doyle of Upper Black Eddy, Bucks County, Pennsylvania and someone who is helping to shape the next generation of Americans.

Justina's dedication as head coach of her girls cross country team has allowed her student athletes to excel both on and off the field. She was recently named the Express-Times Newspaper 2008 Cross Country Coach of the Year. This is the sixth time she has received this honor in eight seasons.

Justina was also inducted into the NJ Scholastic Coaches Association Hall of Fame on March 29th of this year. As head coach of the Voorhees High School girls cross country team since 1997, Justina has led her team to numerous victories, including its seventh straight Hunterdon-Warren NJ championship, third straight North 2 Group 3 sectional title, fifth NJ State Interscholastic Athletic Association Group 3 state title, and second Meet of Champions crown.

The recognition and appreciation that Ms. Cassavell has been shown is no small feat, considering she is a part-time coach. Present and past students alike have called her the "inspiration" in their lives, as she teaches them to believe in themselves and to strive to be great in all that they do.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in recognizing Justina Cassavell for her hard work and dedication to her student athletes—she sets an example for students and teachers everywhere and that is something we should be encouraging more and more.

IN HONOR OF CENTRACARE LABORATORY SERVICES OF ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor CentraCare Laboratory Services in St. Cloud, Minnesota as the second runner up for the Medical Laboratory Observer's Medical Laboratory of the Year Award. Laboratories across the nation were judged on achievement in nine areas with the winners and two runners up, including CentraCare, being featured in the Medical Laboratory Observer, a peer-reviewed journal resource that has been used by laboratory professionals since 1969.

Today's medical care relies heavily on laboratory services that provide fast and high-quality answers to doctors. CentraCare has demonstrated excellence in many ways. They achieved standardization of the equipment in all their labs to eliminate confusion by physicians ordering tests from different labs. They also implemented new labeling guidelines to ensure patient safety and have reduced specimen collection errors to practically zero through an automated pneumatic collection system. These improvements were also acknowledged by the Quality Resources Patient Safety Committee of St. Cloud Hospital.

When it comes to healthcare and the medical community, CentraCare Laboratory Services has been a beacon for quality and patient safety. They are a great resource not only for their patients, but for other laboratories that can learn from their example.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate all of CentraCare's employees for their attention to efficiency and high standards of excellence that has resulted in this prestigious accomplishment.

TRIBUTE TO THE BATTLE OF
LEXINGTON STATE HISTORIC SITE

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this moment to recognize the Battle of Lexington State Historic Site, as they celebrate their 50th anniversary. For 50 years this state park has captured and commemorated a pivotal battle of the Civil War in the city of Lexington, which I proudly represent.

On January 1, 1959, the site was donated to the State of Missouri to be designated as a state historic park. Received in a preserved and quality condition, the State Park has since provided visitors with information, reenactments, and guided tours to this historic site. In 1991, the visitor center was completed and opened for the public. In 2000, a monument was established which tells the Confederate's side of the story. Later this year, a second monument will be put up to tell the Union side of the story.

The Battle of Lexington State Historic Site teaches visitors how Missouri played an important strategic role in the Civil War. Not

quite in the south, yet a slave state nonetheless, Missourians were sharply divided over what side of the conflict their state should enter. In addition, its position along the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers was critical to controlling the West, and as a result, many battles erupted between Confederate sympathizers and Unionists.

Though Missouri eventually cast its lot with the Union, by September 1861, it could have gone either way. It was then that Union Colonel J.A. Mulligan found himself and his troops surrounded by General Sterling Price, leader of the Confederate Missouri State Guard. Price had just led his troops to victory at Wilson's creek the previous month, and was looking to expand on his success with the capture of Lexington, a small but strategic town located near the Missouri River. Capturing the town would allow Confederate recruits from Northern Missouri to cross over the river.

Though the battle of Lexington was one of the longest, most fiercely contested engagements in Missouri during the Civil War, the casualties were surprisingly light. The Union lost only 40 dead and 120 wounded; the State Guard lost only 25 dead and 72 wounded. In addition, Price's triumph was short-lived. Shortly after the defeat at Lexington, General John C. Fremont, the Union commander in Missouri, organized a large force with the purpose of driving out Price's State Guard. Faced with this threat, Price retreated back to Southwest Missouri, and the Missouri River was returned to Union control.

Madam Speaker, the Battle of Lexington State Historic Site has been an important landmark in this country. I know the members of the House will join me in recognizing the site on its 50 years of success and in expressing hope that it will continue to provide a quality experience to the thousands of visitors who come every year.

TRIBUTE TO NATALIE WEAVER

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstandingly gifted student from my district, Natalie Weaver of Madison, Connecticut. On March 10, 2009, Natalie was named champion of Connecticut's fourth annual Poetry Out Loud competition held at the Carol Autorino Center in West Hartford, Connecticut. On April 28, she will represent Connecticut in the national finals held in Washington, DC.

Poetry Out Loud is a national program that encourages high school students to engage in the written and spoken word through memorization and performance of modern and classic poetry. As part of the program in Connecticut, the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism (CCT) assisted participating teachers with professional development and placed teaching artists in participating schools. The CCT also established an all-day workshop for champions, first runner-ups, and their teachers. In Connecticut, the state competition was hosted by the CCT and the State Department of Education, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the Poetry Foundation.

This year, more than 3,800 students participated in the program in Connecticut, which began with competitions at the classroom level and progressed to school-wide competitions, and eventually the state finals. In the state finals, Natalie beat 15 other contestants to win the state champion title. State finalists recited poems selected from an anthology that included over 400 classic and modern works. On April 28, she will compete against other state finalists in the national competition, which will award over \$50,000 in the form of scholarships and school stipends.

Madam Speaker, poetry has long been an essential component of the human expression, serving as an accessible venue to explore and preserve universal themes such as love, beauty, nature, tragedy, and mortality. I commend the efforts of Poetry Out Loud program with engaging students in poetry and applaud Natalie on her big win. I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents in recognizing these contributions and cheering Natalie on in the national Poetry Out Loud competition.

COMMENDING RICHARDSON PARKS
AND RECREATION FOR 50 YEARS
OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, the Richardson area was first settled in the 1840s and 1850s as a pioneer community called Breckinridge. The town of Richardson was founded in 1873 next to the Houston & Texas Central Railway tracks, was named for the railroad contractor E. H. Richardson, and became a thriving community of farms, stores, cotton gins and churches. Richardson remained a sleepy farming community until the 1950s.

With the arrival of Collins Radio and Texas Instruments, Richardson became a popular location for college-educated professionals. Known as the "Electronic City" and later the "Telecom Corridor", Richardson continues to grow and prosper, with many diverse cultures, faiths and populations adding to its vibrant mix of high-tech business and educational opportunities.

In Richardson's rich history, citizens have enjoyed the finest offerings a community can have with exemplary schools, first class parks, excellent library, sophisticated transportation, all managed by a well run local government. Many people who lived in Richardson chose this community because of its quality of life.

In 2009, Richardson proudly celebrates 50 years of Parks and Recreation Services that has served its citizenry with the finest of trails, parks, festivals, recreation programs, senior citizen activities, and tourist attractions all wrapped in a well manicured city. During its 50 years the Richardson Parks and Recreation Department has provided families greater quality of life through first class programs that have become a tradition, and a source of pride within the community.

This is evidenced by greater real estate values and first class economic development proving that Richardson is not only a great host to a business and industry, but a great place to call home.

Congratulations are in order as Richardson Parks and Recreation marks 50 years of service to the community.

GREEN ENERGY EDUCATION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 957, the Green Energy Education Act of 2009.

This bill authorizes the Department of Energy to partner with the National Science Foundation to help universities to develop the next generation of engineers and architects. These students will be trained to work effectively together to produce buildings that incorporate the latest in energy efficient technologies.

Especially in this economy, we need to train our workforce in the latest, most relevant technologies in the green energy job sector in order to help us realize many of our energy policy goals.

In the 110th Congress, I was able to add a provision to the Energy Independence and Security Act that allows colleges and university to research woody biomass, a new form of alternative fuel that shows promise in meeting our energy needs.

We should also continue to support legislation that takes advantage of the growing opportunities to educate and train our college and university students to develop new technologies and find jobs in the green energy economy.

Along with my place on the House Science and Technology Committee, I am also a member of the Education and Labor Committee, and co-chair of the Congressional Community College Caucus. I know that good sustainability practices are a vital component of the effort to move toward a clean, energy independent future. Because community colleges and universities are often at the forefront of this movement, they are a natural place to focus such efforts.

By training students in the latest technologies, we are helping guarantee that companies will have the educated workforce necessary to grow and prosper in coming decades.

I am happy to support this bill, and I am committed to continuing to advocate for policy, partnerships, and projects that will keep universities and community colleges at the forefront of our nation's burgeoning green energy economy.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I want to clearly explain the sources of the data I have

used to compare the strength of the economy during President Clinton's time in office as compared to the economy during the Bush administration. During the Bush administration, an average of 2,000 private sector jobs were created per month. For purposes of comparison, 217,000 private sector jobs were created per month under President Clinton. These statistics are drawn from Bureau of Labor Statistics data. To provide further evidence for the relative success of Presidents Clinton and Bush, it is helpful to look at economic growth during their Presidencies. President Clinton created \$1.68 in economic growth for every dollar of economic growth created under the Bush administration. These numbers are taken directly from research by the Bureau of Economic Analysis. Finally, and perhaps most convincing, is the stark difference between the change in purchasing power, for the median household, between the Clinton and the Bush years. Under President Bush, the median household had \$500 less purchasing power as of 2007 as compared to the beginning of Bush's Presidency. Under President Clinton the purchasing power of the median household rose by over \$5,000. These numbers were drawn from data compiled by the Bureau of the Census and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. My friends on the other side of the aisle may prefer to ignore these comparisons; however, I am of the opinion that we must learn from our past to better prepare for the future. As we work to create jobs and get the economy back on track, it is useful to keep in mind the lessons of the past two decades.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF RON TUPPER FOR HIS CONTINUOUS WORK IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH CARE IN THE BORDER REGIONS OF TEXAS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ron Tupper for his 25 years of service to the health care field through his work in health care development and consultation, health education, and hospital and clinic management. He has done so much over the years for the border region and he truly deserves to be recognized today.

Mr. Tupper holds a master's of science degree in health management and health education from Texas State University, as well as a bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska. He also served our country proudly for 7 years as a U.S. Air Force Medical Serviceman until he was honorably discharged in 1970.

Ron Tupper has been instrumental over the years to bringing quality health services to citizens in the border regions of Texas. He started in 1974 with his first assignment on the Texas-Mexico border and soon afterwards he was elected one of the youngest CEOs to serve an accredited rural hospital in Texas. Later he would help secure a marketing plan and matching funds to develop a rural public health academic training program on the border.

At the University of Texas Health Science Center, Mr. Tupper was responsible for coordi-

nating medical education opportunities in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Over the past few years he has worked with the city of McAllen and the clinic board to secure a site for the community clinic which treats 130 working poverty stricken Hidalgo County residents daily. The facility, which started out as a 3-examination-room clinic, is now a 25,000 square foot facility that operates with 48 examination rooms.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Ron Tupper for his dedicated service to the field of health care in the State of Texas. He has committed so much through the years to advance his cause and I am honored to have the privilege of recognizing him today.

HONORING BARACK OBAMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the students, faculty and staff of the Barack Obama Elementary School for the official renaming of the former Ludlum Elementary School. I am pleased to see that the first school in the Nation to bear the name of our 44th President is in my Congressional District.

The Nation faces a monumental moment in history with the election of our country's first African-American President. At the request of the students and to honor this milestone, on November 20, 2008, Ludlum Elementary School was officially renamed Barack Obama Elementary School. I commend the students for their foresight to honor an historic achievement.

As a member of the House Committee on Education and Labor, I have the great privilege of learning about schools both locally and nationally. The future of this country depends on the hopes and dreams of its children. I look forward to working with the students and faculty as the Barack Obama Elementary School enters this new part of its history.

Madam Speaker, it is with pride and admiration I offer my best wishes and recognition to Barack Obama Elementary School.

HAMAS'S BLOODY HANDS

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, from time-to-time Members insert into this RECORD articles which are of particular relevance to current policy debates, and we often add a commentary. Today I do not add any words because this compelling, insightful column by Richard Cohen on the will- ingness of far too many in the world to give a pass to Hamas while being harshly critical of Israel needs no gloss.

Madam Speaker, I add only that I am in very strong agreement with virtually everything Mr. Cohen has to say in this piece and I hope it will be read and reflected upon.

HAMAS'S BLOODY HANDS

(By Richard Cohen)

Some residents of Gaza were taken from their homes and shot in the legs or feet. Some were brutally beaten, and some were simply murdered, sometimes after hideous torture. If you are expecting—based on everything that has happened—tha the awful Israelis did this, guess again. It was Hamas, the authentic and genuine government of Gaza. Well, no one's perfect.

The information about the shootings is taken from a report issued yesterday by Human Rights Watch and available on its Web site. It says that "Hamas security forces or masked gunmen believed to be with Hamas" executed 18 people, most of whom were accused of collaborating with Israel, sparing the expense and bother of a trial. Others were shot, maimed or beaten, not for allegedly collaborating with the enemy—or, as is often the case, having a house or woman that a snitch covets—but for belonging to the opposition political party, Fatah.

Many of these murders and assaults took place during Israel's recent pummeling of Gaza. Yet, as Human Rights Watch goes to some pains to document, at no time did Hamas's security forces lose control of Gaza, so the murders and maimings were not a consequence of chaos but of government policy. Whatever the case, the murders, shootings and beatings continued even after the hostilities ended. Since then, at least 14 more people have been executed extrajudicially, which is to say murdered. Some were also tortured.

You can only imagine what would happen if Israel dealt with its internal political enemies or dissenters in such a fashion. Last month, for instance, Israel got a heap of criticism and abuse when it was reported in the Israeli media that some Gaza civilian had been unjustifiably shot by Israeli soldiers. The report was widely cited, not just for its shocking allegations but also because it was supposedly indicative of the sort of place Israel has become. The government said the allegations were based on hearsay. We shall see.

No doubt the Human Rights Watch report will be ignored or dismissed in the greater cause of demonizing Israel. This has been the trend of late. No doubt, too, some will excuse Hamas's criminality as the inevitable result of Israeli actions—the Officer Krupke School of Behavior made famous by the singing gang members of "West Side Story." But as much as some would like to criticize Israel—and I have done so myself—they still have a minimal obligation to acknowledge the difference in core values between Israel and its enemies.

This does not mean that Israel is above criticism. After all, it has made life unbearable for some Palestinians, supported illegal settlements in the West Bank, been too harsh in squeezing Gaza, and, maybe most important, it ought to get out of the West Bank—for reasons of justice and for its own sake. Still, it remains unimaginable that Israel would murder its domestic critics or silence dissent with the occasional kneecapping. These are the tactics of thugs.

Read the Hamas charter. It is not some uplifting cry of a downtrodden people seeking its freedom but a repellent anti-Semitic screed. It sees the Jews behind every major world event since the storming of the Bastille: "They were behind the French revolution, the communist revolution and most of the revolutions we heard and hear about, here and there. With their money they formed secret societies, such as Freemasons, Rotary Clubs, the Lions . . . for the purpose of sabotaging societies and achieving Zionist interests." The Rotary? The Lions? Why not Welcome Wagon?

When Israelis talk of the practical difficulties of pulling out of the West Bank, they mean the likelihood that Hamas will oust Fatah and launch rockets into Israel. They are both concerned and appalled by a Hamas charter that, in part, reads like it could have been written by Hitler. Withdrawal is necessary and right, but it cannot be done naively and without the participation of the United States. It's going to take American peace-keepers. It is that simple. No Israeli can trust Hamas to keep the peace.

Human Rights Watch is to be commended. It does not have one standard for Israel and another for Hamas, Hezbollah or the other despotic regimes of the Arab world. That is more than can be said, though, for critics who vilify Israel, romanticize Hamas and clearly have never had the inexpressible pleasure of living in a place where a chance remark can get your legs riddled with lead. Say what you will, but that place could never be Israel.

IN RECOGNIZING OF THE ANNI- VERSARY OF THE ASSASSINA- TION OF MALCOLM X

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I wish to take a moment to recognize that February 21, 2009, as the 44th anniversary of the assassination of EL-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, better known as Malcolm X. I find it only fitting that we take this time to reflect and celebrate the life of this courageous advocate for the civil rights of African Americans.

Born Malcolm Little in Omaha, Nebraska, on May 19, 1925, the early portion of young Malcolm's life was filled turmoil and change. By the age of 13, his father had passed away and his mother had been committed to a mental hospital. He spent a great portion of his formative years in foster homes. He then became involved in the criminal underworld in both Boston and New York. Little was arrested and sentenced to eight to ten years in prison. It was during his incarceration that Little become a member of the Nation of Islam, changing his name to Malcolm X. Following his parole, he quickly became the Nation's chief spokesman and served as its public face for almost 12 years. After his departure from the Nation of Islam, Malcolm X went on to found Muslim Mosque, Inc. and continued championing the cause of Black America. Tragically, the life of Malcolm X was cut short by gunfire on February 21, 1965 in Manhattan's Audubon Ballroom. The most poignant description of Malcolm was during his eulogy by Actor Ossie Davis who called him, "our shining black prince".

Malcolm X once said, "The future belongs to those who prepare for it today". We must heed these words and be evermore dutiful in our commitment to ensure that our children and their children are able to enjoy those three noble principals of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Malcolm X remains an inspiration to millions of people around the world, inspiring others to build on his vision of a nation that recognizes the strengths of all peoples.

HONORING A.M.E. PRESIDING
ELDER JOSEPH D. PATTERSON
ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, one of Philadelphia's most distinguished and influential clergymen, Presiding Elder Joseph D. Patterson, Sr. of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, will be honored and feted on May 2, 2009, as he moves from decades of service to his God, his church and the people of Philadelphia into well-deserved retirement.

Presiding Elder Patterson has served the A.M.E. in its "itinerant ministry" for 45 years, pastoring and overseeing churches in Philadelphia, the western Main Line, southern New Jersey and Atlantic City.

Presiding Elder Patterson is perhaps best known for his 22 years as Pastor of Hickman Temple A.M.E. Church, where he directed an era of significant growth at Hickman as both a spiritual home and community resource for Southwest Philadelphia. His impact on the community is still felt to this day. He facilitated the building of the Samuel J. Patterson Mercy Wellness Center at 50th Street and Baltimore Avenue, which bears his father's name. He was founder and president of the Baltimore Avenue Redevelopment Corporation and past chairman of the \$41 million West Philadelphia Empowerment Zone. He was a member of the Council of Trustees at Cheyney University, serving the school he had attended as both an undergraduate and graduate student.

Presiding Elder Patterson has demonstrated strong leadership both within his own A.M.E. denomination and in the broader community of faith. He served as President of the Black Clergy of Philadelphia and Vicinity from 1995–1997, and in numerous other capacities. He is past president of the A.M.E. Preachers Meeting. Since his appointment as Presiding Elder in 2001, he has served two years as Elder of the Philadelphia District and almost six years as Elder of the West/Mainline District—the post from which he is retiring.

And all along he has been blessed by the love and support of his wife Joyce, mother Ida, and children Joseph D. Jr., Jewell D. and Jocelyn D. Patterson.

Presiding Elder Joseph D. Patterson Sr. will be honored with a special Retirement Service, May 2, 2009, at Mount Pisgah A.M.E. Church, 428 N. 41st Street, Philadelphia, with A.M.E. Presiding Bishop Richard F. Norris of the First District as Guest Preacher. I invite my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in saluting the career of this great man of God and preacher of the Gospel, and to wish him Godspeed upon his retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY'S RELAY FOR LIFE

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life that will occur on Saturday,

April 25th at Marcos de Niza High School in Tempe.

The Relay for Life fundraiser is taking place all over the country, bringing over three million Americans together in the battle against cancer. This event not only raises money for cancer research, but it connects cancer survivors with those who have lost a loved one to the disease with those who want to show their support for the cause. This extensive network is an extremely valuable resource to those whose lives have been affected by cancer.

One in every three people will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime. The American Cancer Society is the largest source of non-profit cancer research funding in the United States, and thanks to their efforts, cancer survival rates have consistently increased over the last 15 years. Fundraisers like Relay for Life allow the ACS to continue to contribute to this significant and often life-changing research.

I want to congratulate the Relay for Life on its 25th year as the American Cancer Society's signature fundraiser, and express my continued support for cancer research initiatives. I am proud that my home town of Tempe has the opportunity to host this event.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, and those participating in the fight against cancer.

HONORING THE LUNAR ORBITER IMAGE RECOVERY PROJECT

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend the Lunar Orbiter Image Recovery Project and all those who have contributed their time and effort to ensure that historic images and vital data from the Lunar Orbiter missions of the 1960s are not lost to future generations.

In 1965, Charles Byrne, an engineer with Bellcomm, Inc., had the foresight to propose that NASA record data from the Lunar Orbiter missions onto tape recorders. NASA agreed and the images returned from the Lunar Orbiters were backed up on AMPEX FR-900 tape drives. To date, these images are some of the highest resolution images we have of the Moon. Those images include a high-resolution version of "Earthrise," the first picture of the Earth from the Moon's vantage point. Time Magazine has called this image "the photo of the century." The tapes also contain the first stereo imagery of the Moon's surface. Indeed, these are some of the best images of the Moon ever taken, far superior from those received from the Hubble telescope.

Astonishingly, all of the images stored on the 1,500 14-inch diameter tape reels were nearly destroyed. With its focus turned to the Apollo mission, NASA saw little further use for the tapes. Fortunately, Nancy Evans, co-founder of NASA Planetary Data Systems, convinced her superiors at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory to retain the tapes. Evans also salvaged three refrigerator-sized FR-900 tape drives, which she stored in her own garage for two decades. Evans and Mark Nelson, of Caltech, managed to get a few tape drives

running but their project ultimately folded. NASA turned down her requests for assistance after placing an estimate of \$6 million on the cost to restore the data.

Fortunately, Evans' efforts caught the attention of Dennis Wingo and Keith Cowing, both of whom have been focused on space exploration for many years. They arranged to move the tapes and drives to NASA's Ames Research Center in Mountain View, California. Ames' director, Peter Worden, arranged for them to store the equipment in an old abandoned McDonalds, which they jokingly referred to as "McMoon's." Wingo and Cowing began working with Ken Zin, an army veteran, to get the drives up and running. NASA contributed \$100,000 to the efforts. Cowing invested his own money in the project and the team enlisted the support of local students to recover the images.

There is still a long way to go to complete this project but the public's interest in it is more than just a matter of historical record. The images have the potential to push NASA's climate data back a full decade. And just as the Lunar Orbiter images provided data crucial to safely landing our first astronauts on the moon, those same images will assist the current efforts of the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter mission by providing a baseline for understanding the changes to the Moon between the 1960s and present day.

As with the Lunar Orbiter's images themselves, the efforts of those who have devoted themselves to this project should not go unnoticed or unrecorded. Although space exploration is a vast, complicated enterprise, it ultimately relies on individuals who have the vision and imagination to move us forward. The Lunar Orbiter Image Recovery Project is an example of that kind of vision and imagination, and those who have contributed to the Project and to preceding efforts surely deserve our gratitude.

REMEMBERING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY'S (CCP) PERSECUTION OF THE FALUN GONG

HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. MCCOTTER. Madam Speaker, sadly, 2009 marks the tenth year of the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) persecution of the Falun Gong. After a 10,000 person silent, peaceful protest in front of CCP offices in Beijing, then-General Secretary Jiang Zemin designated the Falun Gong an "evil cult" and in July 1999, began a brutal crackdown on Falun Gong practitioners. Since then, communist Chinese authorities have imprisoned roughly 6,000 Falun Gong practitioners and brutally killed more than 3,000. Following death, communist Chinese authorities have routinely harvested organs from executed Falun Gong prisoners.

Recently, on February 1, 2009, communist Chinese authorities arrested 61-year-old Zhu Lijin from Tianjin for distributing leaflets about the Falun Gong. On February 16, 2009, Ms. Lijin's family was notified she was sentenced to one year and three months imprisonment in Banqiao Women's "Re-education Through

Labor" camp. While the imprisonment of a 61-year-old woman demonstrates the communist Chinese regime's paranoia, her arrest remains a grave injustice and Ms. Lijin must be immediately set free.

RECOGNIZING VOLUNTEERS OF FAIRFAX COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) and the contributions that its volunteers make to our community. Fairfax CASA serves as an advocate for best interest of every abused and neglected child referred by the county juvenile system. CASA volunteers perform critical services to ensure the very best care and home environment for each child. Each year Fairfax CASA honors the most outstanding volunteers for their noble devotion.

Fairfax CASA presented its May Cook "Heart of Gold" Award to John Nelson. Mr. Nelson personifies the truly dedicated CASA volunteer. Over the past six years, he has advocated tirelessly on behalf of 19 children, fully committing his efforts to each child until a safe and permanent home is secured. John digs deep below the surface for information; he often interviews every single person interfacing with a child in order to gain a complete picture of what is going on in the child's world. For this dedication, Fairfax CASA acknowledged his efforts with its highest volunteer honor.

Eight individuals are recognized by Fairfax CASA for their outstanding volunteer commitment based on a variety of quantitative measurements. Those individuals receiving the Special Achievement Award are: Connie Jaiswal, Pam Jones, Mark Knopf, Marie Mader, Frank Murphy, Shirley Readyhough, Bob Steward, and Lisa Walsh.

A number of volunteers with Fairfax CASA are recognized for achieving significant milestones of longevity with the program. The following volunteers were recognized for five years of service: Glenn MacKinnon, Barbara McLaughlin, Terry Nelson, Todd Skipper, and Phyllis Surret; for ten years of service: Nancy Hall; and, for fifteen years of service: Sandy Summers.

The outstanding efforts of the above-mentioned individuals merit special recognition but one must acknowledge the impact of all 165 volunteers who contributed their time to protect and support children through Fairfax CASA in 2008. These volunteers served 484 abused and neglected children including 214 newly referred by the Court. In serving these individuals, volunteers contributed more than 19,000 hours on their court assigned cases including completing 3,004 face-to-face visits and submitting 207 comprehensive and objective reports to the courts.

Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in expressing our gratitude for the efforts of these volunteers and their colleagues at Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates. The selfless commitment of these individuals provides enumerable benefits to

Northern Virginia and life-changing services to the children and families being served.

HONORING JOHN HOPE FRANKLIN

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 320, a resolution that honors the life and accomplishments of one of the most prolific and well-respected chroniclers of America's torturous racial odyssey, John Hope Franklin who passed away on March 25, 2009, at the age of 94.

Born in 1915, in Rentiesville, Oklahoma, Dr. Franklin came from a humble and equally tragic background. His grandfather had been a slave, and his family lost everything in the Tulsa race riot of 1921. However, it was his background of having faced racial horrors firsthand that brought his academic work to the forefront and cemented his reputation among academics, politicians and civil rights figures as an inestimable historian.

John Hope Franklin attended Fisk University and received his master's and doctoral degrees in history from Harvard University. Shortly after graduating from Harvard, Dr. Franklin became widely known as a pioneer in the field of African American history. He published his first book in 1943 entitled, *The Free Negro in North Carolina, 1790–1860*.

Dr. Franklin enjoyed an academic career full of highlights, fellowships, research publications, and honorary degrees. In fact, Dr. Franklin would publish another 20 books in his lifetime and his research helped future Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall win the landmark ruling in *Brown vs. Board of Education*. It is these accomplishments that helped pave the way both for other Blacks and for the field of African American studies, which began to blossom on American campuses in the 1960s.

I join President Barack Obama in his insightful observation about the impact of Dr. Franklin's life: "Because of the life John Hope Franklin lived, the public service he rendered, and the scholarship that was the mark of his distinguished career, we all have a richer understanding of who we are as Americans and our journey as a people."

In closing, we are reminded that, in addition to his commitment to academics, Dr. Franklin was a dedicated family man. He was married to Aurelia Whittington, his college sweetheart for nearly 60 years before she passed away in 1999.

To their son, John Whittington Franklin, may the special memories that you created together and the many words of wisdom Dr. Franklin gave you be sources of comfort and strength, now and in the days to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 44TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SELMA TO MONTGOMERY CIVIL RIGHTS MARCHES

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I wish to take a moment to recognize March 20 as the 44th anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery marches. These historic marches had a profound affect on the voting rights of African Americans throughout the Nation. It is only fitting that the brave individuals who endured brutal physical violence, mental anguish, and often public humiliation in order to secure their voting rights be recognized by this body.

From the pulpit of Brown Chapel, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., issued a call to action after numerous attempts to enfranchise the black citizens of Selma came to a halt. Over the next several weeks, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Coalition and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference expanded their operations to register black voters in Selma and the surrounding area. At a voting rights protest on February 18th, Jimmie Lee Jackson was shot while attempting to protect his mother and grandfather. Jackson's death prompted Mr. James Bevels of the SCLC to call for a march from Selma to Montgomery. This demonstration of character and faith took place on March 7, 1965. As the peaceful protestors approached the Edmund Pettus Bridge, they were greeted by the Sheriff Department and their clubs, tear gas and bull whips. We remember this day as Bloody Sunday.

Local photographers and television crews captured the brutality of Bloody Sunday, casting the issue into the national spotlight. Their images of cruelty rallied popular support for the cause of the protestors and set the stage for the second march, which was to occur on March 9th. However, protestors hit a stumbling block, when a restraining order was issued preventing the march. Dr. King led a group of 2500 protestors to the Edmund Pettus Bridge where he held a short prayer; before turning the crowd back, so as to respect the rule of law. It is on March 21, 1965 that we see a successful unimpeded march from Selma to Montgomery Alabama. Under the protection of Federal and State soldiers, FBI agents, and U.S. Marshals, a group of near 8,000 protestors set out from Selma to march for 5 days and 4 nights down Jefferson Davis Highway until they reached the Alabama state capitol. Upon their arrival, the number of protestors swelled to 25,000. This march had a profound impact on public opinion and just 5 months after its conclusion, President Lyndon Johnson signed into law the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

I am confident that there will always be those who boldly defy oppression and rebuke tyranny at all costs. One March day, Dr. Martin Luther King asked, "How long will prejudice blind the visions of men, darken their understanding and, drive bright-eyed wisdom from her sacred throne?" Dr. King answered his question, saying, "... Not long, because the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." It is this spirit that we must

cherish. Those who decided to command their own destiny in Selma, Alabama in March of 1965 embody this spirit, and it is my great honor to commemorate their efforts.

CONGRATULATIONS: KIWANIS CLUB OF GORHAM, MAINE

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Kiwanis Club of Gorham, Maine for acknowledging the courage and sacrifices of the children of Maine's military families through their program entitled "Operation Tribute".

Kiwanis is an organization dedicated to service to children and youth through initiatives intended to improve the quality of life of children in communities around the world. Currently, Kiwanis has over 500,000 members internationally, representing 96 countries with 34 clubs in Maine.

On July 17, 2007, the Kiwanis Club of Gorham, later joined by the Kiwanis Clubs of Maine, launched Operation Holiday Cheer, a program to provide a holiday gift to each participating child of Maine's military families, including, Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Reserves and National Guard. Over 9,000 children in Maine have a parent serving in the military.

In 2007, the Kiwanis acquired, wrapped, and distributed over 8,000 gifts to children in 140 cities and towns throughout the state of Maine. Included with each gift was a handwritten note thanking the child and his or her family which read, "On behalf of the Kiwanis Clubs of Maine and the people of the State of Maine, we would like to offer you this token of our appreciation for your sacrifice. You are the child of a Maine military family and the bravery that you show every day by sharing your parent to help protect our country is being recognized and honored. You should be extremely proud of your service to our country and you should know that we, the Kiwanis and the people of Maine, stand proudly and beside you. We wish you and your family a Happy Holiday Season."

In 2008, the Kiwanis built on the incredible success of Operation Holiday Cheer and expanded the program throughout New England and New York. Their efforts—and once again their success—were astounding. Operation Holiday Cheer raised over \$650,000 and distributed over 23,000 holiday gifts to children of military families.

In January 2009, Operation Holiday Cheer renamed itself "Operation Tribute" to better reflect its mission of providing tribute to the children of military families.

I extend my deepest appreciation to the Kiwanis Clubs of Maine for their thoughtfulness in paying tribute—and bringing cheer—to the lives of thousands of children in Maine, New York and all of New England.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. ALLEN
"ALI" CAYIR

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to congratulate Mr. Allen "Ali" Cayir of Chino Hills, California for being awarded the Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

Established in 1986 by the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations, Inc. (NECO), the Ellis Island Medal of Honor pays tribute to our nation's immigrant heritage, as well as individual achievement. This medal is awarded to U.S. citizens from various ethnic backgrounds who exemplify outstanding qualities in both their personal and professional lives, while continuing to preserve the richness of their particular heritage.

A native of Turkey with an engineering degree from Istanbul Technical University, Mr. Cayir arrived in New York in 1980 with plans to begin a new life in Southern California. In 1989, he founded Transtech Engineering, Inc., which today is a multi-million dollar enterprise that provides professional and technical expertise to governmental agencies, educational institutions and the private development sector.

In addition to Mr. Cayir's professional success, he is an extremely active part of his community. His philanthropic contributions include diverse organizations such as Tools for Education at California State University, restoration work at Mission San Juan Capistrano and United Way.

Throughout his life, Mr. Cayir has demonstrated his commitment to community service as well as a passion to preserve and celebrate ethnic diversity. I am proud to honor Mr. Cayir's achievements and congratulate him on his receiving this prestigious award.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. BERNICE
MCGRAIL FOR HER SERVICE TO
THE TOWN OF CLINTON, MASSA-
CHUSETTS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Bernice McGrail, an extraordinary woman who has devoted fully thirty-six years to the children of the Clinton, Massachusetts Public School System as a member of the School Committee. Today, a reception is being held in Bernice's honor so that the legions of former students, faculty, administrators and local officials can offer her their good wishes as she ends a remarkable record of public service to her beloved hometown. I regret that I am not able to attend today's reception to personally express my profound gratitude, respect and admiration to Bernice. However, I did want to submit these heartfelt words of appreciation into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD so that her immeasurable contributions to the development of generations of young people will be forever remembered in the annals of this great institution.

Bernice McGrail's tenure on the Clinton School Committee is not only noteworthy for

its longevity but also for the quality of the service she rendered. For Bernice, the job of serving on the school committee did not begin and end with the weekly public meetings. In painstaking detail, she reviewed all of the school department correspondence, meeting minutes, curriculum proposals and staffing recommendations. Bernice's knowledge of the school department budget is unrivaled and when combined with her dogged determination she was an especially effective advocate for the programs she vigorously supported. In addition to doing the difficult committee work, Bernice was also a constant presence at all of the numerous school social functions and activities. From graduations, to football games, to school plays and dances, Bernice never missed an opportunity to show her pride in the achievements of the school children. Her warmth and sense of humor have endeared her to so many people over the course of nearly four decades in elected office that Bernice is widely regarded as a political force of nature. Her support for any local initiative is prized and her endorsement of any candidate for elected office is coveted. I, for one, am eternally grateful for the loyal friendship, unwavering support and thoughtful advice Bernice has provided me during my career in Congress.

After thirty-six years of tireless dedication, Bernice McGrail is leaving a legacy of selfless public service that will not soon be equaled. She has made an indelible imprint on the Clinton Public School System and helped shape a promising future for an untold number of its students. Madam Speaker, there is no greater gift than that. I wish Bernice and her family continued good health and happiness and kindly ask that the United States Congress publicly acknowledge her exceptional service to the Town of Clinton, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the United States of America.

IN RECOGNITION OF WOMEN'S
HISTORY MONTH

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I wish to take a moment to recognize the month of March as Women's History Month. In our not-so-distant past, women could not vote, own property or maintain wages. Women were not expected to think independently of their husbands, and their work was limited to the household. But even when considered second class citizens, it was our mothers, daughters and sisters who prepared the next generation of Americans for the challenges that lay ahead. As Kofi Annan famously said, "When women thrive, all of society benefits, and succeeding generations are given a better start in life."

Without the American woman's devotion to society, our nation would not be the same. Countless women disguised themselves as men during the Revolutionary War to join the fight for independence. While their husbands, brothers and fathers fought the war abroad, women answered the call by working in factories, sending the allied forces to victory in WWII. Today, American women of every color

and background protect our nation at home and abroad by serving in our Armed Forces. Parents tell their children that women can be anything they dream of—soldiers, lawyers, doctors, teachers, and mothers—without doubt or hesitation.

Chicago's own women have contributed to their communities in significant ways. Carol Moseley-Braun, the first black female senator, attended the University of Illinois at Chicago and the University of Chicago Law School. Ms. Moseley-Braun was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1992 where she introduced several bills that influenced education policy. Prior to becoming senator, she served as a member of the House of Representatives for ten years. Carol Moseley-Braun is recognized for her efforts in education reform and the years she dedicated to serving the state of Illinois. She is truly an example for our young women.

Michelle Obama, our first black First Lady, has contributed greatly to the city of Chicago and to her country. Mrs. Obama, a graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law, is an extraordinary example of grace and success for all women. She proves that women can do it all—have a high-powered career, be a devoted mother and wife, contribute to her community, and even campaign. As an advocate for national service and helping working women balance family and career, the First Lady continues to show that there is no limit to what a woman can do.

I salute the women who have sacrificed so much to serve our country. Each woman benefits our society in her own way, and whether an artist or a doctor, a teacher or a lawyer, a mother or a soldier every woman's success encourages future generations of young girls and women to follow their dreams. I am proud to recognize March as Women's History Month in our great nation.

IN HONOR OF 307TH BOMB GROUP/
WING MACDILL/KADENA ERA
(1946-1954)

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the 307th Bomb Group/Wing (1946-1954), which is holding its 14th reunion this week in Tampa, Florida.

The 307th Bombardment Group rose from the reorganization of the U.S. Army Air Forces after World War II and the deactivation on August 6, 1946, of the 498th Bombardment Group.

As the initial SAC Bomb Group, the 307th was first tasked with developing tactics, operating procedures and training requirements to engage in anti-submarine and sea search operations. The high priority given their task also gave them priority in recruiting personnel, training and equipment. As a result, while the 307th was assigned 13 B-29 aircraft when it was instituted, it had 30 B-29s a month later.

The 307th was busy for the next few years but it was the outbreak of the Korean War that tested its mettle. In the summer of 1950, the 307th with 31 B-29s deployed from Florida's MacDill Air Force Base to Kadena Air Base in Okinawa and on August 8 began bombing runs on North Korea.

The B-29s bombed the enemy's transportation system and industrial facilities throughout North Korea. Following a November campaign against the bridges over the Yalu River into Manchuria, the B-29s bombed interdiction targets, communication and supply centers, and supported United Nations ground forces by hitting gun emplacements and troop concentrations.

For the next few months the wing's bombers participated in FEAF's bridge-busting campaign, flying numerous missions against key bridge spans, and helped U.N. ground forces blunt a communist spring offensive. On May 23rd, the 307th provided nighttime close-in support, shredding enemy positions along the entire battlefield with Loran Radar guided and aimed fragmentation bombs.

The 307th was integral in the war effort until the truce was signed in July 1953. As the truce talks were concluding, the 307th helped disrupt and spoil an enemy ground offensive, earning it a Distinguished Unit Citation. At the end of the hostilities, the 307th had flown more than 5,800 combat missions.

In 1954, the wing returned to the United States and was assigned to Lincoln Air Force Base in Nebraska. The B-29s were retired and the unit became a B-47 wing, ending an era.

Madam Speaker, most of the surviving veterans of the 307th Bomb Group/Wing who flew over Korea are in their 80s—including my friend Cy Johnson of Camarillo—and every reunion brings fewer of them together. I believe my colleagues will agree, however, that it's important to remember the 307th's role in bringing peace to the Korean Peninsula and fighting back the initial push of communist aggression. I therefore ask my colleagues to join with them and with me in commemorating their earned and rightful place in our American history.

RECOGNIZING LAWRENCE HOSPITAL CENTER FOR 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 100 years of quality health care provided by Lawrence Hospital Center in Bronxville, New York.

Lawrence Hospital Center first opened its doors in 1909 to care for residents of Southern Westchester County and beyond, and it continues providing high-quality health care today. It was founded by William Van Duzer Lawrence, who recognized the need for high-quality and timely care for residents of New York City suburbs after his son, Dudley, nearly died en route to a hospital in New York City.

In its first year of operation, Lawrence had thirty beds and treated a total of 278 patients. Today, Lawrence Hospital Center has grown into a 291 bed acute-care facility that treats thousands of patients annually.

Lawrence has a strong history of leadership in health care and local medical excellence. In 2006 Lawrence became a leader in stroke care when the hospital became a designated New York State Stroke Center. Lawrence's Cancer Care program has also been accredited

by the American College of Surgeons with Commendation.

Employing more than 400 physicians, Lawrence Hospital Center provides expertise in virtually every area of medical specialty. It is recognized for its professional excellence in bariatric surgery, cardiology, obstetrics, orthopedics, and oncology.

Committed to health care excellence, Lawrence Hospital Center has recently expanded and renovated its facilities in order to continue serving the growing population of Westchester County and surrounding areas. Recently, the hospital opened a state-of-the-art maternity center, expanded and improved its emergency department, and finalized plans for a future sleep center.

I am proud to recognize and thank Lawrence Hospital Center for providing 100 years of outstanding health care to residents of the New York Metropolitan Area, and I look forward to working with Lawrence Hospital Center to strengthen the health care system in the lower Hudson Valley.

A TRIBUTE TO ATHLETIC DIRECTOR RONNIE CHAVIS

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. MCINTYRE. Madam Speaker, as co-chairman and co-founder of the Congressional Caucus on Youth Sports, I rise today to extend my most sincere congratulations to Robeson County Athletic Director Ronnie Chavis, who was honored by the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE) as 2009 National Athletic Director of the Year. Mr. Chavis, who has served the Public Schools of Robeson County for over 17 years as director of athletics, driver education, health, and physical education, was honored as Southern District Athletic Director of the Year on January 5, 2009. It was at the organization's national convention in Tampa, Florida, held during the first week of April, that Mr. Chavis was named NASPE's 34th Athletic Director of the Year.

Mr. Chavis is a long-time resident of Robeson County, which is my home county. He graduated from Prospect High School in 1968 and attended the University of North Carolina at Pembroke where, as pitcher, he led his baseball team to the College World Series with a 9-3 record. Mr. Chavis graduated from UNC—Pembroke with a degree in education in 1972, and began teaching and coaching at a local high school. Mr. Chavis later earned two master's of education degrees from Campbell University, one in physical education, and the other in administration and supervision. In 1989, he was named Athletic Director of the Public Schools of Robeson County.

Among his many accomplishments, Mr. Chavis used funds from a physical education grant to build fitness centers, complete with new conditioning and physical education equipment, for each of the seven high schools within his district. Furthermore, Mr. Chavis ensured that all 35 elementary and middle schools were furnished with adequate physical education supplies, equipment, and software. Mr. Chavis also partnered with the Public

Schools of Robeson County to provide funds for the lighting of all baseball and softball fields, and two football fields. Finally, Mr. Chavis established the Robeson County Coaches Golf Tournament, which has raised over \$15,000 to assist coaches and athletes that have experienced hardships.

Mr. Chavis is recognized by his colleagues as a highly dedicated professional who is able to motivate both students and coaches. His impact on the children of Robeson County and its youth sports community is evident. While a number of Robeson County athletes have gone on to play at the collegiate and/or professional level, many of Mr. Chavis' former students have emerged as doctors, lawyers, and coaches. Teaching discipline and perseverance, Mr. Chavis continues to inspire the lives of our children, molding individuals who will make many useful contributions to society. On behalf of the U.S. Congress, I extend congratulations to Mr. Chavis for his recognition as 2009 National Athletic Director of the Year.

HONORING THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE BIRTH OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I wish to take a moment to honor Abraham Lincoln's legacy as we commemorate the bicentennial of his birth this year. President Lincoln had a tremendous impact on the progression of our nation. The 16th President of the United States successfully led the country through its greatest internal crisis, the American Civil War, preserving the Union and ending slavery with the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. As a young man, Abraham Lincoln feared not achieving anything that would make men remember him. With hard work, dedication, and determination, today, Abraham Lincoln tops the list, for many, as one of the most influential—and most revered—Americans.

The spirit that guided him was clearly that of his Second Inaugural Address, now inscribed on one wall of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC: "With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds . . ." Indeed, Lincoln's legacy is most alive in our continuous search for freedom, equality, and opportunity. I feel that it is only right for my fellow colleagues and I to pay homage to a great leader who helped pave the way for so many and who continues to inspire people today, two hundred years later.

As our newly elected 44th President of the United States, Barack Obama, also from Illinois, begins his first term in office, the wounds of the nation and the world will begin to heal as he is guided and inspired by the former President Lincoln. Illinois is the state where Lincoln spent more than a quarter century of his life, serving as a lawyer and politician, leaving his mark in many towns and cities throughout the state. Long before being elected president in 1860, he served four terms in the state legislature and one in Congress. The state of Illinois honors Lincoln's legacy in a variety of ways including: The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, the Lincoln

Memorial Garden, Lincoln's Journey of Remembrance, The Lincoln Home National Historic site, and the city of Lincoln. In addition, The U.S. Mint will introduce four newly-designed Lincoln pennies throughout 2009, the first being released on his birthday. A Lincoln commemorative silver dollar will also be released later this year.

We have come a long way since the Lincoln days, but we still have a long way to go. The bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln is a great time to honor his legacy, as well as re-examine the American Dream and what it means to be an American today. It is a time of opportunity to bring together a divided nation in order to work together to fulfill Lincoln's goal of finding unity in our diversity. With a newly-elected President who shares many of the same ideals as Lincoln, there is not a better time to start this transformation, create change, and finish the work that we started so long ago. President Obama, similar to Lincoln, faces many great challenges ahead, but with hard work, dedication and determination these challenges we shall too, overcome.

HONORING THE LOUISIANA
HONORAIR VETERANS

HON. JOHN FLEMING

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. FLEMING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a very special group from Northwest Louisiana.

On April 11, 2009 a group of 104 veterans and their guardians flew to Washington with a very special program. Louisiana HonorAir is providing the opportunity for these Louisiana veterans to visit Washington, DC on a chartered flight, free of charge. For many, this will be the first and only opportunity to visit the memorials created in their honor. These brave men and women, from my home state of Louisiana, deserve the thanks of a grateful nation for everything they have sacrificed for our freedom.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these great Americans and thank them for their unselfish service.

Maurice E. Alston, Sr., Albert S. Austin, Norman W. Bale, Kenneth R. Barns, Paul Bauer, James W. Beck, Wayne Belshe, Clyde W. Benson, Chet J. Boudreaux, Wilfred Boullion, William E. Brashear, William O. Budwah, Pleasant Nathaniel Burns, James L. Bush, James H. Butler, William T. Cagle, Richard H. Canterbury, Lamore J. Carter, William H. Carter, Lundy E. Cavender, Marcus R. Chapman, Jr., Allen G. Clements, William Y. Cobb, Rollin H. Cochran, Addison A. Daigle, Arthur J. DeLaune, Jr., Steven L. dePyssler, Homer C. Doty, Jr., James C. Epps, Clyde Lee Estes, Jesse Fenton, Carl D. Ferguson, Jr., Joe E. Floyd, Frank H. Ford, Jr., Lucian W. Furr, William Gately, Ellsworth Gauntz, Jack E. Giles, Wesley D. Glassell, Hersey Goodwin, James B. Grant, James D. Guffey, Ralph A. Hair, Adron W. Hallman, John E. Hamburn, John W. Hamilton, Jesse W. Hammett, Raymond E. Harper, Harold B. Hayden, John Allen Head, Raymond L. Heck, James A. Holdcroft, William J. Hood, Verle L. Hulse, John B. Humphrey, Robert P. Hunter, Richard L. Ingram, Taylor P. Isom, Dewey W. Jenkins, Sr., Edwin

E. Jones, George V. Keith, Charles M. Kendrick, James F. King, Stanley F. Kolniak, John J. Langdon, Powell A. Layton, Harry A. Lazarus, Jr., Darion D. Leach, Rosa R. LeJeune, Sam F. Loeb, George A. Love, Charles W. Luther, Joseph F. Lytle, Joseph A. Malec, Floyd L. Marlatt, Joseph A. Marsala, Frank H. McArdle, Jefferson P. McBride, Jr., Joe H. McDaniel, William R. McDaniel, Sam W. McDonald, John Ivy Miles, Mitchell S. Miletello, Jesse W. Moore, Jr., Calvin W. Morgan, Franklin P. Moritz, Alfred J. Procell, John H. Pruett, Jr., Kearney L. Pruett, Earl L. Raley, Robert V. Rayner, Robert Bruce Rivet, Thomas O. Roberts, Billy B. Robertson, James E. Robison, Mike Romanos, Charles H. Rose, Jr., Gerald J. Roussel, E.H. Scoggins, James E. Still, Charles W. Tebow, Ralph D. Tinsley, Loyd H. Wilkins, and Lawrence R. Yeager.

WE MUST ENSURE SAFE ROADS
AND BRIDGES!

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2009

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Safety, Efficiency and Accountability in Transportation Projects through Public Inspection Act of 2009 (H.R. 2104).

This bill would require public employees to perform the inspection and related essential public functions on all state and local transportation projects. My bill is intended to ensure that public safety is protected, transportation funds are not wasted and projects are delivered in a timely manner.

On transportation projects, the construction inspector is the eyes, ears and voice of the public. Inspectors ensure that construction and seismic standards are met, that projects meet safety requirements and that the materials used will stand the test of time. In short, inspectors are there to ensure that the motoring public gets what they pay for and public safety and the public interest are protected.

When the construction inspection function is outsourced to a private company, there is no longer a representative of the public on the job site. In this circumstance, one private company is charged with the task of inspecting the work of another private company. This creates multiple conflicts for the private inspector. First, the private inspectors' primary obligation and responsibility is not to the public, but to the success and profitability of his company. Because the private construction company whose work they are inspecting on one project may be a business partner on a future project, private inspectors may also feel pressure from the private contractor to take steps that ensure larger profits for both firms. I am concerned that these conflicts have led private inspectors to cut corners and overlook problems that threaten public safety, increase costs and delay projects.

There are many examples in which public safety has been threatened by the use of private inspectors, including Boston's "Big Dig" (where a concrete slab from a tunnel ceiling fell and killed a woman), the L.A. Redline subway (Hollywood Blvd. collapsed), the 8-805 Interchange in San Diego (10,000 defective welds on a seismic retrofit), the Connecticut I-84 project (hundreds of drains that lead nowhere).

Contracting out public inspection work also does not save money! Defective work requires extensive repairs, and inevitably, the taxpayer gets stuck with the bill. Comparative studies have also found that contracting-out engineering, design, and inspection costs more than to do this work in-house, and none of these studies found that consultant engineers were less expensive. Factors that contribute to consultants' excessive costs include the lack of competitive bidding, cost-plus provisions in contracts, salary differentials between the private and public sectors, profit margins of from 10 percent to 15 percent, and additional costs connected with selecting and supervising consultants.

Failure to have public construction inspectors has also delayed projects in the past and will undoubtedly do so in the future. One such example is the privately inspected \$12 million carpool bridge connecting the San Diego (405) and the Costa Mesa (55) Freeways. The project was to have been completed in April 2003. However, work was halted in August 2002 when chunks of concrete were falling from the structure and many cracks were noticed. Contractor and private inspector errors were later discovered and the carpool ramp did not open until January 2005.

The Public and the federal government understand what's at stake. In a 2006 California public opinion poll, 71% of those surveyed said they want state engineers to inspect the construction of state highways; and 20% found private firms acceptable for the task. David M. Walker, the Comptroller General of the United States, said in a recent interview: "There's something civil servants have that the private sector doesn't, and that is the duty of loyalty to the greater good—the duty of loyalty to the collective best interest of all rather than the interest of a few. Companies have duties of loyalty to their shareholders, not to the country."

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, April 28, 2009 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 29

9:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Johnnie Carson, of Illinois, to

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| <p>be Assistant Secretary for African Affairs, and Luis C. de Baca, of Virginia, to be Director of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking, both of the Department of State.</p> | <p>Foreign Relations To hold hearings to examine the United States strategy toward Pakistan.</p> | <p>2:30 p.m. Energy and Natural Resources Business meeting to consider the nominations of Kristina M. Johnson, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary, Steven Elliot Koonin, of California, to be Under Secretary for Science, Ines R. Triay, of New Mexico, to be Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, and Scott Blake Harris, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, all of the Department of Energy, Hilary Chandler Tompkins, of New Mexico, to be Solicitor of the Department of the Interior, and pending legislation on Renewable Electricity Standard and Siting of Interstate Electric Transmission Facilities.</p> |
| <p>Veterans' Affairs To hold hearings to examine pending benefits related legislation.</p> | <p>10 a.m. Appropriations To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the War Supplemental.</p> | <p>SD-419 SD-106</p> |
| <p>10 a.m. Judiciary Crime and Drugs Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine restoring fairness to federal sentencing, focusing on addressing the crack-powder disparity.</p> | <p>Finance To hold hearings to examine the nominations of William V. Corr, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services, and Alan B. Krueger, of New Jersey, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Economic Policy.</p> | <p>SD-215</p> |
| <p>Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.</p> | <p>Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions To hold hearings to examine primary health care access reform, focusing on community health centers and the national health service corps.</p> | <p>SD-366</p> |
| <p>Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs To hold hearings to examine swine flu, focusing on coordinating the federal response.</p> | <p>Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Ivan K. Fong, of Ohio, to be General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nomination of Timothy W. Manning, of New Mexico, to be Deputy Administrator for National Preparedness, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.</p> | <p>Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine national security reform, focusing on implementing a national security service workforce.</p> |
| <p>2 p.m. Aging To hold hearings to examine the life settlement market, focusing on what is at stake for seniors.</p> | <p>SD-430 SD-342</p> | <p>SD-342</p> |
| <p>2:30 p.m. Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the federal government's role in empowering Americans to make informed financial decisions.</p> | <p>SD-342</p> | <p>Intelligence To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.</p> |
| <p>Armed Services Personnel Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the implementation of Wounded Warrior policies and programs.</p> | <p>Judiciary Business meeting to consider S. 417, to enact a safe, fair, and responsible state secrets privilege Act, S. 257, to amend title 11, United States Code, to disallow certain claims resulting from high cost credit debts, S. 448 and H.R. 985, bills to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media, S. 327, to amend the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 and the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to improve assistance to domestic and sexual violence victims and provide for technical corrections.</p> | <p>S-407, Capitol</p> |
| <p>APRIL 30</p> | | |
| <p>Time to be announced Indian Affairs Business meeting to consider the nomination of Yvette Roubideaux, of Arizona, to be Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.</p> | <p>SD-342</p> | <p>MAY 6</p> |
| <p>9:15 a.m. Appropriations Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the Department of Transportation's implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).</p> | <p>SD-226 210-CHOB</p> | <p>9:30 a.m. Veterans' Affairs To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Roger W. Baker, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology, William A. Gunn, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Jose D. Riojas, of Texas, to be Assistant Secretary for Operations, Security, and Preparedness, and John U. Sepulveda, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Human Resources, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs.</p> |
| <p>9:30 a.m. Armed Services To hold hearings to examine the Secretary of Defense's 2010 budget recommendations.</p> | <p>SD-418</p> | <p>10 a.m. Judiciary To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Homeland Security.</p> |
| <p>SH-216</p> | <p>SD-628</p> | <p>2:30 p.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation Communications and Technology Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the future of journalism.</p> |
| <p>SD-138</p> | <p>2 p.m. Armed Services Airland Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the current and future roles, missions, and capabilities of United States military air power.</p> | <p>SR-253</p> |
| <p>SD-418</p> | <p>Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.</p> | <p>Judiciary Terrorism and Homeland Security Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the passport insurance process, focusing on ending fraud.</p> |
| <p>SD-226</p> | <p>SD-430</p> | <p>SD-226</p> |
| <p>SD-226</p> | <p>Judiciary Immigration, Refugees and Border Security Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine comprehensive immigration reform in 2009.</p> | <p>MAY 21</p> |
| <p>SD-226</p> | <p>SD-226</p> | <p>9:30 a.m. Veterans' Affairs Business meeting to markup pending legislation.</p> |
| <p>SD-226</p> | <p>SD-226</p> | <p>SR-418</p> |